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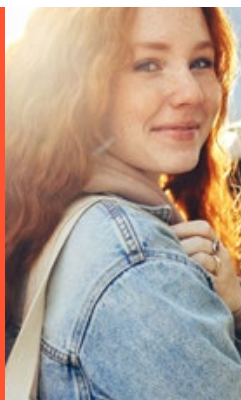


Baptist Churches
of NSW & ACT

Guidelines for Conduct of Assembly Meetings

Please refer to Schedule A of the Association's Constitution adopted on 5th and 6th May, 2023 for 'Guidelines for Conduct of Assembly Meetings'. The Constitution is on the Baptist website at: bit.ly/BA-NSW-ACT-Constitution. Additional guidelines relating to presentation of reports to Annual Assemblies are contained at Paragraph S. of Schedule A of the Constitution.

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Program

FRIDAY 2nd May, 2025

9:00am **REGISTRATION OPENS**

10:00am **Local Welcome**

10:05am **Local Worship**

10:25am **Networked Welcome**

10:30am **KEYNOTE SESSION:**
Tania Harris - God Conversations

11:15am **SHORT BREAK**

11:25am **WORKSHOPS:**

AI, work and the role of the church today

Kara Martin - Lecturer Mary Andrews College, Author,
Adjunct Professor, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
(this workshop will be made available via live stream to our remote sites)

Building a culture of peace in the church today

Wayne Forward - CEO Peace Wise

Hearing the voice of God in the church today

Tania Harris - Pastor, Author and Director of God Conversations

Meaningful meetings and decision making in the church today

Tim Burns and Steve Hales - Baptist Association Church Health Team

12:30pm **LUNCH** (Ballot boxes open)

1:15pm **MEETING OPENS: Confirmation of scrutineers**

1:20pm **ANNUAL REPORTS:**

- Discipleship and Leadership Development
- Mission and Church Development
- Partnership

3:00pm **SHORT BREAK**

3:05pm **2026-2028 Association Strategic Planning – small group feedback**

3:50pm **CLOSE**



SATURDAY 3rd May, 2025

| | |
|---------|--|
| 9:00am | REGISTRATION OPENS |
| 10:00am | Local Welcome |
| 10:05am | Local Worship |
| 10:25am | Networked Welcome |
| 10:30am | KEYNOTE SESSION: Tim Piesse - Building a Discipleship Culture |
| 11:15am | SHORT BREAK |
| 11:20am | "Yesterday at the Gathering" |
| 11:25am | Highlights from the Annual Report |
| 11:30pm | Morling College and Bedford College report |
| 11:50pm | David Brown Scholarship |
| 12:00pm | LUNCH (Ballot boxes close 12:40pm) |
| 1:00pm | FaithSpace |
| 1:05pm | Names presented to proceed to Accreditation |
| 1:15pm | Financial Report 2024 and Budget 2025 |
| 1:45pm | Announcement of Voting Results |
| 1:50pm | AFTERNOON BREAK |
| 2:00pm | Business |
| 4:00pm | CLOSE |

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants and traditional custodians of the lands where we live and minister. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge Creator God who has brought us together, from different lands and nations, and desire to continue together towards deeper understanding and reconciliation.

Introducing our Keynote Speakers



FRIDAY 2nd May, 2025 Rev Dr Tania Harris

Tania [Tarn-ya] Harris (PhD) is a pastor, practical theologian, author, broadcaster and the Director of **God Conversations**, a global ministry that equips people to recognise and respond to God's voice.

Tania consults with denominations and movements and trains church leaders in Spirit-led discipleship and the development of communities that facilitate hearing God experiences. Her books, podcasts, academic research and media broadcasts all aim to equip everyone to recognise the Spirit in the context of their local church. Tania is an ordained minister with the Australian Christian Churches. She makes her home in Sydney, Australia.

[Click here](#) to find out more information about the **God Conversations** ministry.



SATURDAY 3rd May, 2025

Rev Tim Piesse

Tim is the national leader of Building a Discipling Culture (BDC). We work with over 240 churches in Australia and New Zealand, across 17 denominations, equipping churches and leaders to make significant missional impact in their local communities. A key to the BDC journey is equipping ordinary people with all the skills and tools they need to disciple their friends and family to faith in Jesus.

Tim served as Discipleship Pastor at Crossway Baptist Church from 2012-2018, making a pivotal contribution to the discipleship journey, and as Creative Ministries and Worship Pastor prior to that. He is married to Sarah and they have four children.

[Click here](#) to find out more information about the Building a Discipling Culture ministry.

Assembly Council



Allen Sibley
Chair



Allyson Beddoe
Deputy Chair

Members:

Dr Catherine Casey

Dr Omar Djoeandy

Rev Angelo Gratsounas

Rev Matthew J Kennedy

Matthew W Kennedy

Dr Edwina Murphy

Vicki Sherry

(Appointed Member)

David Slinn

Attendees:

Rev Dr Steve Bartlett

Director of Ministries
(Baptist Association)

Rev Dr Tim MacBride

Principal
(Morling College)

Geoff Moore

Honorary Legal Advisor

Edwin Ho

Governance Manager
(Baptist Association)

Fanny Wong

Secretary to the Assembly Council

Role of the Assembly Council

The role of the Assembly Council is to collectively ensure the delivery of the vision of the Baptist Association of NSW and ACT, to set its strategic direction, and to uphold its values. The Assembly Council should collectively be responsible and accountable for ensuring and monitoring that the organisation is performing well, is solvent, and is complying with all its legal, financial, and ethical obligations. The responsibilities of the Assembly Council that cannot be delegated to any other person or body include:

- **Spiritual oversight**
- **Strategic planning**
- **Organisational governance**
- **Regulatory monitoring**
- **Financial monitoring**
- **Financial reporting**
- **Organisational structure**
- **Leadership selection**
- **Succession planning**
- **Risk management**
- **Dispute management**
- **Social responsibility**
- **Assembly Council performance and composition**

Assembly Council Membership Nomination & Profile of Candidates for Election

Five (5) persons to be elected by Assembly from five (5) nominees

| Person | Church | Profile |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Allen Sibley | Parramatta Baptist Church | Page 14 |
| David Slinn | Gordon Baptist Church | Page 15 |
| Matthew J Kennedy | Islington Baptist Church | Page 16 |
| Omar Djoeandy | Caringbah Baptist Church | Page 17 |
| Vicki Sherry | Gymea Baptist Church | Page 19 |

The following pages provide background information for those nominated. Profiles have been prepared by nominees and appear in randomized order.

The Assembly Council



The Constitution of the Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT describes how affiliated local Baptist churches and affiliated groups work together to fulfill the objects of the Association. Under the Lordship of Christ, final Governance of the Association is vested with Assembly, which appoints the Assembly Council.

The Assembly Council is the council appointed under Section 10 of the Constitution as the Executive Committee under the Baptist Union Incorporation Act 1919 (NSW) and it is empowered to implement Assembly decisions and to conduct the Association's affairs between Assemblies.

The 12-member Assembly Council comprises:

- 9 persons elected by Assembly,
- the Chair of Morling College Council, and
- 2 persons appointed by Assembly Council at its discretion.

The Director of Ministries, Principal of Morling College, Honorary Legal Advisor, Governance Manager and the Secretary to the Assembly Council attend meetings of the council but are not entitled to vote.

Five (5) positions on Assembly Council are up for election at this Annual Assembly.

Five (5) candidates have been nominated and there are five (5) positions to be filled, so as per Section 8.4(x)(i) of the Constitution a two-third (2/3) majority is required for a nominee to be elected.

Under Section 9.2(d) of the Association's Constitution, when more than 3 positions are to be filled by persons to be elected at an Assembly, the three persons obtaining the most votes will each be elected for 3 years, with the next 3 persons (if any) being elected for 2 years.

Section 10 of the Constitution describes the role, membership, powers and duties of the Assembly Council.

Clause P of Schedule A of the Guidelines for Conduct of Assembly Meetings in the Constitution requires that the election of Assembly Council members is to take place by ballot at the Assembly meeting.

Candidates for Assembly Council



Nominee: **Allen Sibley**

Date Nomination Received: Tuesday, 25 March 2025

Church Membership:
Parramatta Baptist Church

Allen has served as an Assembly Council member since 2019, as a member of the Finance, Risk & Audit Committee of the Association for the same period, and as a member of the recently established Governance Committee. He became Chair of Assembly Council in January 2024.

After originally training as a teacher Allen had a career of over 20 years in global public companies in the information technology and telecommunications industry including 10 years of General Management and Executive level experience. He then moved into the Christian not-for-profit world in 2007 where he has worked and voluntarily served in organisations such as BaptistCare, IntegriCare, Bedford College, the Baptist Assembly Council and PeaceWise, where he is currently Chief Operations Officer. He currently is Chair of the Integricare Board and a Director of BaptistCare.

Allen has also completed an MBA and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Allen has been a Christian since age 15, growing up at Hughes Baptist Church in the ACT where he was actively involved in Boys' Brigade, Youth Group and Sunday School. He was a member at Carlingford Baptist Church for 12 years and was actively involved in Boys' Brigade and Youth leadership before becoming a member at Parramatta Baptist Church in 1991. Since joining Parramatta Baptist Church, Allen has served in a number of leadership roles including deacon, secretary, men's ministry leader, worship team member, and property committee chairman.

Allen is married to Jenny, they have 6 adult children, four grandchildren and live in the north-western suburbs of Sydney.

Allen brings with him Baptist Church and local ministry governance experience.



Nominee: **David Slinn**

Date Nomination Received: Friday, 21 March 2025

Church Membership:
Gordon Baptist Church

David is married to Alison and has three children, William, Victoria, and Edward.

David is a member and deacon of Gordon Baptist Church. He has served in a variety of local church roles over many years and is currently chair of the diaconate and church's Property, Finance and Administration Committee.

David is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and has a Bachelor of Commerce and Laws degrees from UNSW, a Master of Laws from Kings College, London University, and a diploma in Financial Regulation. David is the CEO of Baptist Financial Services Australia Ltd (10 years) and was previously a director of BFS for 8 years.

David has a wide range of experience in leadership and the areas of business management, accounting, investment banking, and development project management. Earlier in his career David worked for Coopers & Lybrand (7 years), the HSBC Banking Group (7 years) and as CEO of the DEM Architectural and Design practice

(15 years). He spent 7 years working in London initially with Coopers & Lybrand and then HSBC.

David has served on the Assembly Council in the past from 2011 to 2020 and 2022 to 2025 as well as on a range of task-forces and committees. He is currently the Chair of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee, a Director of Morling Foundation and Bedford College. He is also a member of the National Council of Australian Baptist Ministries.

David has a passion for helping local churches and for building up and mobilising denominational resources for church growth and development. He is keen to continue to support the Gen1K vision of NSW & ACT Baptist Churches in tangible and practical ways and to build a healthy and vibrant church community that is constructively and actively engaged with the broader community. A church community that reflects the gospel in ways that reflect Jesus and that enables those in the community to find Jesus.

Candidates for Assembly Council



Nominee:

Matthew J Kennedy

Date Nomination Received: Thursday, 20 March 2025

Church Membership:

Islington Baptist Church

Matt is currently serving as the Pastor of Islington Baptist Church and is married to Anna, with three children. He enjoys all things coffee related, reading, photography, going outdoors for bush walks, bike rides, and attempting to surf.

Matt grew up attending a Baptist church in North Queensland and has spent his adult life attending and serving in Baptist churches in Sydney (and now Newcastle). His decision to belong and serve in a Baptist church is, however, not merely an accident of convenience. He is a Christian by conviction, and Baptist pastor by conviction. He believes in Baptist ecclesiology, and in the importance of the Baptist movement and ensuring that we have a healthy and growing Baptist witness in this part of the world as we work together.

Matt has had strong involvement in local church, inter-church, and inter-denominational organisations. Matt sees the local church as the heart of God's mission, but at the same time believes churches are most healthy when they work with others for the sake of the kingdom. He is enthusiastic about our Gen1K vision as an Association and believes he can play a part in working

towards this vision through serving on the Assembly Council.

His formal qualifications include Bachelor of Electrical Engineering & Masters of BioMed Engineering (UNSW), Bachelor of Theology (Moore Theological College), Master of Arts in Ministry & Graduate in Christian Ministry Advanced (Morling Theological College), leading to Accreditation as a Baptist Minister.

Prior to his current role, leading Islington Baptist Church, Matt served as the Youth Pastor, then Associate Pastor at Chatswood Baptist for around 10 years. He has served in Church Health Consultancy with the GEN1K Church Health team, as an adjunct lecturer at Morling College, as Chair of REACH Willoughby Board (representing churches to oversee Highschool SRE ministry), a committee member for KCC NextGen Conference, on a Leadership taskforce for the Association back in 2015 and has also served as a Youth Worker at Flo Harris Lodge whilst at Theological College. For the past 3 years Matt has served on the Assembly Council, where he believes he has made a valuable contribution and enjoys mutual trust, respect and appreciation with his fellow council members.



Nominee:

Omar Djoeady

Date Nomination Received: Thursday, 27 March 2025

Church Membership:

Caringbah Baptist Church

Omar currently serves as a Missions Consultant for SIM Australia. Previously, he served as National Director for 15 years, focusing on visionary, teambuilding, risk-taking and action-oriented leadership that resulted in effectiveness and growth in that Not-for-Profit International Organization.

His other ministry is related to the book he self-published in 2020, *Redefining Success According to Jesus* (redefiningsuccess.com.au). He loves helping others avoid harmful definitions of success and connect with the real Jesus of the Bible. He believes we can refute worldly success and exchange the 'never enough syndrome' for contentment, courage, purpose, generosity, and community and, more significantly, be a success in the eyes of Jesus. He also loves speaking in churches, especially on global mission, coaching and mentoring leaders.

His career includes being a Medical Doctor in Australia and Kenya and an associate Pastor at Nairobi Chapel, Kenya, when it grew from 800 to 2000 members. Omar has preached in 15 countries. He has equipped churches, organisations and people in leadership, cross-cultural mission, discerning God's new things and experiencing the God-factor. He brings a cross-cultural perspective and a voice from an ethnic minority.

Omar is ethnically Chinese, was born in Indonesia, and has been an Australian since age 10. He is married to Kay, a counsellor, and they have three young adult children and one grandchild. Omar and Kay have been members of Caringbah Baptist Church since their return from Kenya in 2004.

Candidates for Assembly Council



Nominee:

Vicki Sherry

Date Nomination Received: Friday, 28 March 2025

Church Membership:

Gymea Baptist Church

Vicki has a deep passion for seeing people flourish and the Kingdom of God grow. She has been married to Robert for 24 years, and together they have two young adult sons.

Vicki grew up in a culturally Greek Orthodox household where faith felt more like a checklist than a personal relationship with God. A chance encounter in a Christian bookstore led her to a transformative experience with Jesus between 1999-2000. Struck by the depth of God's love, grace, and mercy, she embraced her faith publicly at Gymea Baptist Church under a message from Karl Faase and was baptised a few years later.

Although she has no formal ministry training, Vicki's love for Jesus and His work has driven her to serve in numerous church roles, including Sunday school leader, Lifegroup leader, a member of the Carols committee and a six-year term on the Gymea Baptist Church Leadership Team. She continues to serve as a member of the Senior Leadership Team member in her current role as CEO of Hopefield, a therapeutic and social services organization.

Prior to her appointment at Hopefield ten years ago, Vicki built a diverse corporate career across leadership, sales, management, strategy, and operations. She is future-oriented, tenacious, and has a strong grasp of governance, successfully leading business turnarounds and launching new ventures. At the start of 2024, after a period of prayer and fasting, Vicki was unexpectedly invited to consider a role on Assembly Council. Through further prayer and discernment, she believes this may be God's calling for her next season of service. While recognizing the challenges ahead, she is committed to growing the Kingdom of God and aiding the church in this pursuit.

Vicki brings dedication, experience, and a heart for service. She values integrity, community, and the opportunity to contribute meaningfully. If elected, she looks forward to continuing to support and empower others in their journey of faith and personal growth.

A note from Assembly Council regarding this nomination:

Vicki has served on Assembly Council as an Appointed Member since April 2024 and is also a member of the Council's Governance Committee. She demonstrates strong contribution to the work of AC.

Under the Association's constitution, Assembly Council comprises 12 members, 9 of whom are elected by Assembly. The other 3 members are the Chair of Morling College Council, and 2 positions which may be appointed by Assembly Council itself.

This provision is designed to assist the Council to complement its elected members with up to 2 person who bring specific skill sets and broaden the diversity of the Council.

Vicki is committed to ongoing ministry on Assembly Council, and Council endorses her standing for an elected position.





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Our Vision Pictures



GEN ONE HEALTH

We see a movement of transforming, healthy communities

- Embracing faith and risk in a life of authentic discipleship
- Transforming lives in the power of Christ
- A culture of disciple making being normal and expected
- Diverse in expression and ministry yet united in purpose, values and foundational beliefs

GEN ONE MISSION

We see an extraordinary mission shaped movement of God across our churches and affiliated groups

- Proclaiming and demonstrating Christ's love in holistic, culturally appropriate global engagement
- Growing faster than population growth to a movement of 1000 healthy churches in a generation
- Support and involvement in church planting and pioneering work being normal
- Mutual support and partnership between our churches, the Association of Churches and its affiliated groups

GEN ONE LEADERSHIP

We see a movement raising and empowering Kingdom-focused leadership

- A culture of leadership development across our movement
- Ample mature leadership to allow our churches, groups and new ministries to flourish
- Healthy pastors and leaders serving our churches and groups with sustained vitality
- Leaders equipped and supported for their roles in the broader community

GEN ONE JUSTICE

We see a movement impacting our society, culture and world

- Cultivating significant positive societal change
- Asserting a prophetic voice, bringing Kingdom values into the public square
- Advocating for and aiding the vulnerable, voiceless and oppressed

Strategic Priorities Liftout

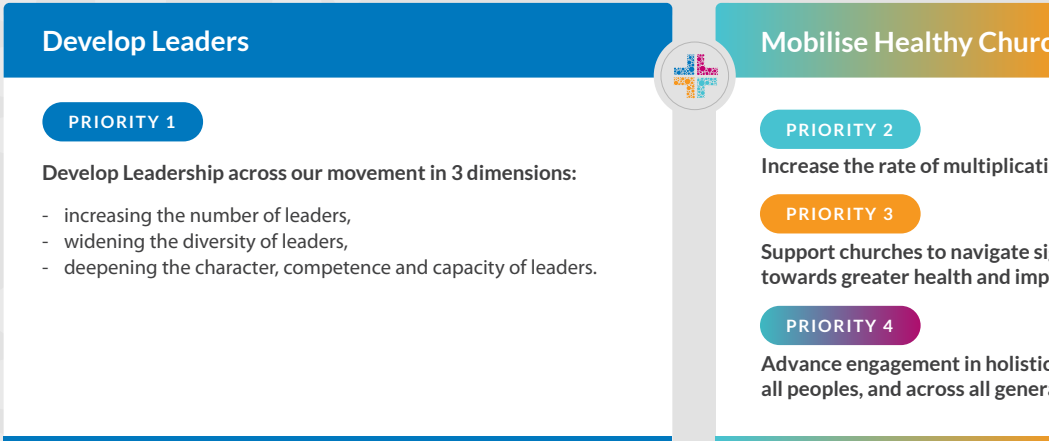
GOAL: We will be a movement of 10

GEN

VISION PICTURES: Vision Pictures are a landscape of what our movement will look like in the future



PRIORITIES: To achieve our Goal and become the movement we want to see, our priorities over the





1000 Healthy Churches in a Generation.



as we achieve our goal.

that are

Mission Shaped

and

Impact Society

GEN1K MISSION

We see an extraordinary mission shaped movement of God across our churches and affiliated groups

GEN1K JUSTICE

We see a movement impacting our society, culture and world

next 3 years are to...

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Partner In Ministry

PRIORITY 5

Expand the capacity of our regional ministries to contextually advance the Gen1K goal in local networks

PRIORITY 6

Enhance our strategic support services and resources towards the Gen1K goal

PRIORITY 7

Work towards greater unity and partnership across our movement

Our Movement

Goal

Leading up to 2012 a review of all the Association functions and activities was undertaken. Out of this review a bold goal of 1000 healthy churches in a generation (GEN1K) was established and affirmed by member churches.

Our Vision, Purpose and Goal together articulate why we exist, what we need to look like in the future, and what we hope Gen1K will achieve through God.

Purpose

The Association of churches exists to work together in the fulfilment of God's call on us as individual churches – to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are called to do this throughout all the world – locally, nationally and internationally. Our purpose also indicates the vital nature of partnership in ministry as it identifies the need to have interdependent relationships to fulfill this call. As churches and ministers we join together to work towards advancing the Gospel. This includes being supported when we are weak and supporting others when we are strong.

Values

Core values are one of the aspects that identifies and unites us as an Association. They drive what, why and how we do what we do. Core values guide us as individuals, churches and as an Association. Our desire is to see our purpose and vision through the lens of these core values and allow them to assist in guiding ministry decisions moving forward.

Our Core Values:

- Christ Centred
- Mission Shaped
- Relationally Committed
- People Empowering
- Partnership Oriented

Vision

Working together harnesses greater potential to impact the world around us. This combined expression also allows for support and development services to be accessed by all member churches, church leaders and attendees. Our belief is that we can have a greater positive impact on the world around us when we partner together.

Our Vision Pictures:

- Healthy Churches/Community
- Leadership
- Mission
- Justice



“

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

- ACTS 1:8

Morling College Council Membership Nomination & Profile of Candidates for Election

Up to six (6) persons to be elected by Assembly from four (4) nominees

| Person | Church | Profile |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Angelo Gratsounas | Narwee Baptist Church | Page 28 |
| James Kim | HOME Church | Page 29 |
| Matthew Arkapaw | Mortdale-Oatley Baptist Church | Page 30 |
| Paul Mosiejczuk | Liverpool Baptist Church | Page 31 |

The following pages provide background information for those nominated. Profiles have been prepared by nominees and appear in randomized order.

The Morling College Council



The Morling College Council is the governing body responsible for decision-making in relation to the conduct of Morling College, as the theological college of the Baptist Association.

The 14-member Morling College Council comprises:

- 10 persons elected by Assembly,
- the Chair of Morling College Academic Board,
- a person with academic expertise appointed by the Morling College Council at its discretion,
- a person selected by the Assembly Council of the Baptist Churches of Western Australia, and
- a person selected by the Assembly Council of the Baptist Churches of Queensland.

The Council is responsible for offering training as determined by the Association; the training of persons accepted by the Association for training for Baptist ministry; the training of cross-cultural ministry workers and other spheres of Christian service; the promotion of the Christian faith consistent with the basic doctrines, statement of belief, position statements and values of the Association and offering courses accredited by relevant government authorities and supportive of national goals for higher education.

The Principal of the College, the Director of Ministries, the Honorary Legal Advisor and the Secretary to the Morling College Council attend meetings of the Council but are not entitled to vote.

Four (4) candidates have been nominated and there are six (6) positions to be filled, so as per Section 8.4(x)(i) of the Association's candidates require a two-thirds (2/3) majority to be elected.

The 4 candidates were Council members who are stepping down by rotation and eligible for renomination and election to a new term at this Assembly.

Under Section 9.2(d) of the Association's Constitution, when more than 3 positions are to be filled by persons to be elected at an Assembly, the three persons obtaining the most votes will each be elected for 3 years, with the next 3 persons (if any) being elected for 2 years.

Candidate for Morling College Council



Nominee:

Angelo Gratsounas

Date Nomination Received: Tuesday, 25 March 2025

Church Membership:

Narwee Baptist Church

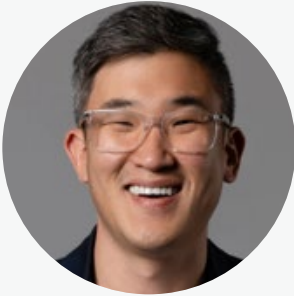
Angelo has served as the Senior Pastor of Narwee Baptist Church for 28 years, serving a vibrant church ministering to close to 1000 people. This includes 4 Sunday services, one of which is a Mandarin speaking congregation, which was planted 10 years ago.

He has extensive experience as a Board member, having served as a member of Morling College Board for many years. He has also served as Vice Chair and in the last three-year term he has served as Chair of the Board. He led the Board through the appointment of a new Principal and the merger with Malyon College. Angelo has also chaired the Property Development Committee and the Risk Management Sub-Committee.

Angelo is a visionary Christcentered leader with a passion to see the church trained and equipped to glorify God in all aspects of life.

He is committed to raising up a new generation of leaders who love God, know the Word, and are led by the Spirit, who will take the gospel to their local communities and to the ends of the earth. He has seen many workers raised up at Narwee who now serve as pastors in our denomination and many who serve overseas in mission.

He is accepting the nomination to serve again on the Council as he sees the value of a strong theological College in training men and women for both pastoral ministry and missionary work and other vocational and volunteer ministries.



Nominee:
James Kim

Date Nomination Received: Friday, 28 March 2025

Church Membership:
HOME Church

James Kim has been serving on the Morling College Finance & Audit Committee since 2021 and as a Board Member since 2022. With a background in financial services, including 13 years at HSBC Australia, James brings extensive governance experience in finance and risk management.

In addition to financial expertise, James has over 20 years of ministry experience, including 11 years (and still serving) as Lead Pastor at HOME Church and deep commitment to Morling College.

With a passion for education and strong institutional governance, James seeks to contribute meaningfully to the mission and growth of Morling College, ensuring strong leadership and financial stewardship in the years ahead.

Candidate for Morling College Council



Nominee:

Matthew Arkapaw

Date Nomination Received: Wednesday, 26 March 2025

Church Membership:

Mortdale-Oatley Baptist Church

Relevant ministry experience or areas of service:

- Background: High School Teacher
- Pastor in the Baptist Association since 2003
- Currently Senior Pastor, Mortdale-Oatley Baptist Church
- Member of Assembly Council (2005-2014)
- Member of Morling College Council (2021-present), current Co-Deputy Chair and Chair of Marling Residential Sub-Committee
- Relevant expertise for Morling College Council (e.g.: interpersonal skills, governance experience and expertise, experience in education, vision, strategic thinking, missional, future-oriented perspective, pursues the big picture, ability to assess and analyse current realities and emerging strategies, assesses risk, financial literacy, legal expertise, and people management/HR skills)

Knowledge of pastoral ministry (22 years as a youth, solo, associate and senior pastor), tertiary studies in education, theology, and counselling, experience in board responsibilities through membership of Assembly Council and Morling College Council.

Other relevant personal information:

- Reason for accepting nomination for Morling College Council:

I am glad to be a two time graduate of Morling College, am excited at the future prospects of Morling and proud of its commitment to evangelical theology and best practice education. I believe in denominational service and would be privileged to continue serving on Morling College Council.



Nominee:

Paul Mosiejczuk

Date Nomination Received: Friday, 28 March 2025

Church Membership:

Liverpool Baptist Church

I have worked for 4 years in the building industry. I studied at Morling College between 1988-1991. I have been in full time pastoral ministry since 1991, a Board member of Sowers International Australia since 1993. I served one 3-year term as a member of Morling College Council from 2002 to 2005. I have also worked part-time with Baptist Association as a cross-cultural worker between 2009-2013.

I have an appreciation for people from other cultures and our church is a cross-cultural church.

I believe in the training and equipping for ministry in churches, both locally and overseas.

Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust Membership Nomination & Profile of Candidates for Election

Two (2) persons to be elected by Assembly from two (2) nominees

| Person | Church | Profile |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Craig Collins | Epping Baptist Church | Page 34 |
| Sonja Daly | Mortdale-Oatley Baptist Church | Page 35 |

The following pages provide background information for those nominated. Profiles have been prepared by nominees and appear in randomized order.

The Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust



The Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust is an incorporated body created by the Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust Act 1984.

Seven members are elected by the Baptist Assembly for three-year terms on a rotational basis. The members of the Property Trust are required to obey the directions of the local congregation, provided those directions do not contravene the Act or the general law of the land.

The Act requires that a member of the Property Trust will be a member of a Baptist Church affiliated with the Association. At a personal level members of the Trust are involved in the ministry of a local Baptist church and have a firsthand understanding of congregational life. They know that church property matters are often complex and that local leaders sometimes require help to properly process transactions. As servants of our churches they will adhere to the Basic Doctrines, Statement of Beliefs and Objects and Values of the Association.

In order to fulfill its role, the Property Trust should ideally comprise members who have various business disciplines including accounting, legal, real estate, banking, management, etc. In the past its members have included a Minister.

A member of the Trust cannot be a person who is or becomes an employee of the Trust, the Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT or of any committee, council or agency of the Association of Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT.

The Property Trust meets up to six times a year in Sydney. In addition, 2-3 members meet most weeks to sign documents submitted by churches for their property transactions. Country members are paid travelling expenses to attend, or may attend meetings by electronic means.

At each Annual Assembly, an election of members of the Trust shall be held to fill the offices of the members of the Trust which become vacant at the end of that Assembly.

Two (2) Trust members, Paul Holding and Geoff Moore will retire by rotation having completed their 3-year term.

There are two (2) vacancies to be filled at this year's Annual Assembly.

A simple majority is required in order to be elected.

Candidates for Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust



Nominee: **Craig Collins**

Date Nomination Received: Tuesday, 25 March 2025

Church Membership:
Epping Baptist Church

- I am a committed Christian.
- Recently resigned from BaptistCare NSW & ACT as a Director after 11 years and sat on their Property Committee.
- Currently help out on the Baptist Association's Property Advisory Group.
- Currently run a small family property investment company.
- Retired after about 28 years from JLL, a US listed property group. I retired as CEO of Hotels & Hospitality Group Australasia.
- Have sold many billions of dollars worth of real estate and understand how a transaction is undertaken.

I accepted the nomination as I was asked to join and hope I can assist.



Nominee:
Sonja Daly

Date Nomination Received: Thursday, 27 March 2025

Church Membership:
Mortdale-Oatley Baptist Church

Sonja is a member of Mortdale-Oatley Baptist Church and the Ministry Leader for Administration. She is married to Mark and has two adult children who are involved with their local Baptist Churches.

She holds advisory position in two other Christian organisations. She is the Managing Partner of a law firm and has 31 years' experience in litigation and dispute resolution. She regularly appears as an advocate in the Supreme Court of NSW and NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal in matters relating to property, building and construction business, professional negligence and employment. She has held statutory appointments, conducting hearings as a local court arbitrator, strata schemes adjudicator and an NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal Member.

Sonja has a desire to use her experience to serve on the Baptist Churches of NSW Property Trust.

Assembly Council

Recommendations to the

2025 Annual Assembly

Friday 2nd May, 2025

1. That the annual reports for 2024 be received.
-

Saturday 3rd May, 2025

1. That the Assembly welcome the individuals listed below and that they be approved to proceed to accreditation and after being set apart for ministry their names be added to the List of Accredited Ministers, on the recommendation of the Affirmation Oversight Team:
2. That the Assembly welcome the individual listed below and that he be approved to have his accreditation transferred to the Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT and that his name be added to the List of Accredited Ministers, on the recommendation of the Affirmation Oversight Team:

Louise Eccleston

Warren Moore

Jinsun Song

Nathan Holland

Tim McManus

Mitch Thompson

Darren Wykes

Toni Rehrmann

James McMaster

Hickory Smith (Converge)

3. That the Financial reports for 2024 be received.
4. That the 2025 Church Partnership Support Budget (CPSB) for the Baptist Association be approved.

Assembly Council will be bringing motions for the Saturday afternoon session pursuant to the Assembly decisions made at last year regarding Affiliation, Baptist Values and Marriage. These motions and accompanying documents will be available from 17 April, 2025.

2024 Financial Results



The Association’s surplus of \$5.4m is made up of an operating surplus of \$881k, surplus from Other Ministries of \$1,056k, a surplus from Designated Funds of \$2.9m, and other comprehensive income of \$478k. During 2024, we have continued to focus on building up resources for the Gen1K vision by further consolidating

funds with the aim of efficiency and mobilising resources for strategic initiatives. Some further funds have become available from closed churches and are included in the surplus from Designated Funds. Below is a summary of our 2024 financial results.

| | Actual | Budget | Diff | \$Diff % |
|--|--------|--------|---------|----------|
| Operations | | | | |
| Income | 5,543 | 5,681 | -138 | -2% |
| Expenses | -4,662 | -5,638 | 976 | -17% |
| Surplus from Operations | 881 | 43 | 838 | 1949% |
| Other Ministries | 1,056 | 200 | 856 | 428% |
| Surplus from operations including Other Ministries | 1,937 | 243 | 1,694 | 697% |
| Designated Funds | 2,986 | 52 | \$2,934 | 5642% |
| Other Comprehensive Income | 478 | - | 478 | 0% |
| Total Surplus for the Year | 5,401 | 295 | 5,106 | 1731% |

Our operating surplus of \$881k is mainly due to timing of expenses being deferred. The figures for Other Ministries include Kiah Ridge, GodSpace and our Regional Ministries (Greater West for Christ, Riverina District Baptist Association, H100, TSS, Western Districts, Canberra Region, South Coast and Northern Rivers). Other Ministries is above budget due to surpluses above budget made in Regional Ministries during the year and

also changes to the future direction for GodSpace whereby surpluses are now retained toward future redevelopment initiatives for our SRE Curriculum. The surplus from Designated Funds is above budget due to the proceeds from the sale of properties of closed churches which are used to support the GEN1K Vision. Other comprehensive income of \$478k represents the gain on the revaluation of investments.

Church Partnership Support Budget 2025

The Operating budget for 2025 is a net deficit of \$183k. The Church Partnership Support Budget of \$1.55m only covers a quarter of our annual operating costs of \$6.3m. We continue to work diligently so that the operating budget can be balanced over the long term and as the Association requires increasing resources to support churches in an ever-increasingly complex environment.

| | \$'(000) |
|--|---------------|
| Budgeted Church Partnership Support Budget | 1,550 |
| How these contributions are utilised in ministry: | |
| Leadership Development | -261 |
| Baptist Youth Ministries | -457 |
| Children and Families | -152 |
| SRE | -133 |
| Accreditation and Recognition | -243 |
| Mission and Church Development | -183 |
| Church Witness | -177 |
| Church Multiplication | -487 |
| Church Health | -293 |
| Global Mission | -208 |
| Strategic Support and Regional Development | -406 |
| Standards | -278 |
| Communications and Events | -511 |
| Ministries Management | -782 |
| Operations | -856 |
| Information Technology | -506 |
| Human Resources | -87 |
| Balance Ministry Services | 10 |
| Contribution to Morling | -150 |
| Contribution to Baptist Union of Australia | -114 |
| TOTAL MINISTRY ALLOCATIONS | -6,273 |

Church Partnership Support Budget 2025 (Cont'd)



\$(000)

These ministries are funded by income from:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Church partnership contributions | 1,550 |
| Grants | 1,215 |
| Greater Wester for Christ | 69 |
| Transform Southern Sydney | 60 |
| Legacy Fund | 400 |
| Baptist Financial Services Ltd | 1,000 |
| Insurance Operations | 412 |
| Investment Fund | 752 |
| Tax Deductable Fund | 17 |
| Arncliffe Fund | 100 |
| Gen1K Fund | 515 |

Income Excluding designated funds **6,090**

OPERATING DEFICIT **-183**

David Brown Scholarship

The David Brown RURAL AND REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP is an exciting scholarship awarded annually to a pastor, promoting excellence in pastoral leadership. This scholarship was established in memory of Rev David Brown, once a Team Leader, Ministry Support and Development with the Baptist Association of NSW and ACT.

In David's time in leadership in our movement he had a passion for regional and rural ministry, encouraging and supporting pastors and leaders ministering in those contexts.

To receive this scholarship a person must:

- Be a pastor of an affiliated church or fellowship of the Baptist Association of NSW & ACT.
- Located outside Sydney, Wollongong, Newcastle and Canberra areas.
- Be recognised as having potential or demonstrated excellence in pastoral leadership in a rural or regional setting.
- Demonstrate having made a contribution to the local community.
- Demonstrate a commitment to and connection with the wider family of Baptist Churches in NSW and ACT.

Previous winners include:

- 2015 David Strong**
Wagga Wagga Baptist
- 2016 Ian Davie**
Moree Baptist
- 2017 Ian Vippond**
Dubbo Baptist
- 2018 Steve Maynard**
Gundagai Baptist
- 2019 Wayne Spencer**
Molong Baptist
- 2020 Rob & Cheryl Burton**
Batemans Bay Baptist
- 2021 Stephen Gaut**
Casino Baptist
- 2022 Samantha McNally**
Cootamundra Ministry Hub
- 2023 John Wilson**
Lismore Baptist
- 2024 Trenton Grofos**
Cobar Baptist Church

The David Brown Award was instigated by Ken Clendinning, who first encountered David when he, as a youth leader, refereed his soccer games. Sometime after 1986, the two (along with John Cox) went on to establish the pastoral teams day training at Epping Baptist.

Then after 1999, Ken worked closely with David when he served as the Associate Superintendent for Pastoral Development for the Baptist Union. After graduating from Morling College in the 1970s, David was appointed as pastor at Yass Baptist. This was his first country experience which subsequently led to him having a great love for country ministry. David died on Christmas Day in 2005, and the David Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2007 to enable rural and regional pastors to continue the work of David and attend some learning and development experience.

Ken says:

"David was a humble, Godly man, who was relationally strong across a diverse range of persons. He was committed to building God's Kingdom yet pragmatic about how this might best be done. He was a very caring guy which was reflected in his preaching, church governance and relational sensitivity. He was a great pastor to pastors. He had a great passion for country churches and a deep understanding of pastoral life and ministry, especially in country churches."



Upcoming Events

Discover more at:

www.nswactbaptists.org.au/events



21 May



2 June



2 - 3 June



13 June



14 - 16 June



25 July



26 July AND 9 or 11 August



14 August



26 - 29 September



8 October



8 - 10 October

Scan the QR code
to visit our events page
on our website



Hear & GO

DISCIPLESHIP IN A

DISTRACTED WORLD



Baptist Churches
of NSW & ACT

Location: Ministry & Learning Centre,
Level 4, 5 Saunders Close,
Macquarie Park, NSW 2113
Phone: 02 9868 9200
Email: hello@nswactbaptists.org.au
Web: www.nswactbaptists.org.au