

Taking our pulse Feb 2019 responses.

Timestamp	Group name	Are we still feeling warm towards our vision and the areas we decided to focus on?	What are the things/activities etc that you are enjoying?	What's working well?	What are you excited/ encouraged by?	Do you have challenges, what are they?	What dreams do you have and what would help you to achieve these?
26-Nov-2018	GOMER Peter Baker	Yes	The fellowship and soon getting back to the walks around the lake	Gomers on a Monday morning, it's good and has plenty of social interaction and when appropriate serious discussion.	Getting to know fellow Gomers better through common interests, and issues/concerns that warrant further discussion.	The occasional dominance of 'groups' that limit one-on-one interaction	No, I'm pretty happy with Gomers just a little slack in attendance.
27-Nov-2018	The Girls @ Jells.	Yes	Walking, talking, coffee, Fish Groups, Worship Services, Fellowship, Book Fair and Fete where the whole congregation works together, Hub & Hub morning teas, Pancake Breakfast @ Glen Waverley Secondary.	All of the above	People who come to the Church keep coming, Exciting -the opportunity for people from outside to come and share in our space and feel welcome , -eg: Play Group and other groups who use the Church or come for a Church activity. It is good to see that the Ministry Team support the activities of the Church.	Challenges of writing prayers for Church, but it is great discipline. Challenge of being on HUB and struggling to understand the guests and keep the conversation going	Bi-lingual services for Chinese speakers and perhaps for other ethnic groups. The next step; we get people to come to Playgroup, HUB and Mini Maestros etc, how do we encourage them to become part of the Church Community
30-Nov-2018	Welfare Committee	The vision is still good. We have intentionally got more involved in local welfare networks including through Monash Council. We can offer feedback and input.	When we can help people who really do want to try and turn their life around.	Welfare is getting great support from the congregation. We are pleased to be receiving donations from individuals and groups. The Hub look after clients while we are on our way. The office do a great job too.	When we hear good news from or about a client.		We still have a hope for a part time paid social worker. The Social Worker would work with our volunteer team. They could also offer training for volunteers.
30-Nov-2018	8am worship Ross Mackinnon	Yes but no sure what Kingsway Ministry means.	8am worship, Faith Development, The Hub, Missional Group, GOMER, Meeting new people	8am worship - still meeting a need - great fellowship. Indonesian Congregation. The Hub. GOMER. Playgroups. Welfare.	Heather Hon's candidacy. Steady trickle of people who call in to ask about our faith. The Friday group. Our hospitality. Indonesian Congregation. Neil's leadership & preaching. Di's pastoral contribution. Alanee's leadership & preaching. Large numbers of people who have studied theology.	Answering faith questions especially from people with no religious background. Keeping up to date with my theological reading.	To keep Jesus's vision of the Kingdom of Heaven alive. We all need encouragement to do this.
3-Dec-2018	GOMER John Hurst, Ian McMillan	Yes	fellowship - with more dimensions of outreach than with wholly intra-church fellowship	the coffee (occasionally scones)	the strength of the group, both in numbers and relationships.	Singing "Merry Christmas" in tune.	less noise ( which tends to shut out those with hearing problems) help? sitting outside? in the rain?
4-Dec-2018	Communications Committee	Our Vision is core to our reason for being	Connecting people and groups to each other. Lifting the G.W. Uniting Church profile in the community	Sharing time in committee Having our Vision as part of the Agenda for meetings The leadership of the chairperson	Feedback from the community at large (internal and external) Feedback that people find G.W. Uniting Church through the website Potential of social media in communication	To find ways to encourage the congregation to read the documentation provided To find ways to routinely integrate a range of our initiatives into the office activities To find younger members for the communication committee to enhance the social media side of our communication initiatives Developing communication skills within the congregation	Dreaming that nobody says I didn't know about that. [Provide information for all the primary conduits used by the congregation] Develop on-site communication interfaces (display cabinets, boards, etc.) [Find a person to remove old notices and post new information on a regular basis] Enhance our social media presence [Find a young expert in social media who is willing to come on committee] Continue to have people follow the roster emails and action these.

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4-Dec-2018	Property Committee	Still feeling it. Still moving in the right vein eg. The Hub. Lots happening good direction. Can we identify new areas where we can grow.	Property team working well together. Property team keeping up with society expectations. The church feels a calmer place than it was 4 years ago. More interaction happening.	Leisure Time 40 years is proof it is working The Hub which keeps growing and helps people get a handle on English language. English classes growing. Been some decline in playgroups.	The vitality of the complex usage all the time during the week. The broadcast ministry is now widely known. The breakfast program at GWSC.	Declining helpers and so sometimes we struggle to keep things going. This can cause stress when people are reluctant to drop a program. Demographics changing - Overseas people finding it harder to get finance - Families looking for full time child care. Is this impacting playgroup?	A music program for kids. Younger generations joining and taking us forward. More cultures reflected in our worship life - encouraging participation from African, Middle East, Sri Lanka and India.
7-Dec-2018	Pancakes GWSC	Yes	Kids Conversations Coffee Friendships Teamwork	Buzz. Kids saying thank you. Getting to know individuals and conversations with students who want to talk. Conversations among ourselves/ friendships	Team and AI's organisation Everything Relationship with school, well being team and staff So much fun	Pressure to make pancakes fast enough: long queue Did school administration want us (mid year)? New schedule 2019	Continuing to develop relationships with kids and well being dept. new staff Continue support well being dept with material aid GWUC provide morning tea for staff Shrove Tuesday (February) gold coin donation for share appeal.
9-Dec-2018	4.30 pm Gathering	Still warm. This is a very comfortable place to have an open conversation. Respect for one another. Community partnerships phenomenal. It is really good what this church does.	At 4.30 learning different aspects of faith. Robust discussion, fellowship and kids engaged. Like our informal way. Bring current issues into faith context. We are all from very different backgrounds. Alanee is fantastic with the youth. I like 10 am combined services. Fete	most weeks we all turn up. provided meals to others when needed. We support each other.	The involvement of kids in our sharing time. Some successes like the Indonesian service and Chinese Fellowship. Church is extremely welcoming of the community. Community groups welcome to hire. Church very outward focused.	We have not been able to draw others in. We need more awareness of the different groups across the church. Finding appropriate resources.	The congregation continuing to move forward. That we are not cliquey and grow. Do more to recognize first peoples but it is a challenge.
10-Dec-2018	Indonesian Fellowship	YES	music, singing, food, fellowship, retreat to farm	gathering EVERY Sunday	growing support from rest of GWUC community; building more links through common activities like the Fete and through choir (Free Spirit) friendliness and welcome from church return visit to Manado	attracting more members (common sentiment) + lessening the gap with the existing congregation; how do we express and communicate our love for God more fully? make service more interesting to Anglos so we can build a relationship with more of main congregation some Indonesians not confident to approach Anglos. Aim to build one service where we are all together (Darius)	to make it closer between the congregations have quarterly multi-lingual services where we are all together followed by a meal where each worship congregation contributes ping pong competition (Darius) pop up forum in the church with audio-visual: "getting to know our nearest Christina neighbours" followed by meal raise profile of GWUC within Indonesian community in Melbourne via publication called Buset
11-Dec-2018	Playgroup Mothers			Playgroup is a welcoming and supportive place to be, for our children and for us as parents.	The experience of coming to playgroup at this church.		
12-Dec-2018	Ministry Team	We remain excited about the vision.	We are enjoying working together. There is a good rapport among the team. We give space for each others gifts.		We are excited when people catch hold of the vision and take steps. When people show leadership and initiative and go and do it.	Stretched resource wise - people. The year's program can run us. Finding time to dream, plan, implement. Di unable to be present at worship. Communication across the congregation.	There is a need to work to connect the 2nd third of life better. 9.15 becoming a real inter-generational service. Finding our place in the community in relevance and then engaging in it. Nurturing deeper faith through providing things/activities/opportunities that allow a deeper level of engagement.

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18-Dec-2018	Peter Baker's thoughts on 8 am service	Yes but where do inter-faith and ecumenical elements come in the mix?	Passing the Peace particularly where it prompts reflection and follow-up opportunities, personally and/or options following discussion and review of the perceived issue/opportunity	The "coffee" following the service encourages discussion, with the opportunity to reflect on issues raised in the service or experiences from the previous week, in addition to general conversation and sport related discussion over the football season	New people joining us for worship and coffee, but are we reading the signs/signals enquiring 'how did you find us?' , 'how are you settling in?' or do we hope they join in the general banter and find us great company?	* Services are ok but often lack depth and challenges for the congregation * Excessive interaction ((leader and congregation) often fail to generate an atmosphere, or provide leads, that could encourage reflection/contemplation or questions on issues raised	The above are issues I would be prepared to discuss further and contribute to any implementation
1/21/2019 22:42:07	Faith Development Missional Group	Yes. We need to be mindful and responsive to what the congregation wants, e.g. studies, pop-up seminars, etc		Chines & Indonesian Fellowship groups, programs for children & families which newcomers find on our website.	See above	Is website reaching the community? More than half of newcomers come through the website. Uthies has been suspended. Lenten / Advent studies not always well supported.	Use technology, e.g.blogs to widen our vision. Holy Week suggestions - meditative walk, daily services with installations and music.
1/21/2019 22:53:57	UCAF	YES, doing well; wonderful job. Playgroups & Leisure time. Participation in Chinese New Year, etc. Hub. English classes.	Adult Group, but hard to get leaders. Variety of Sunday worship, especially combined services & 8am service - good meditation & coffee fellowship afterwards. Afternoon tea group and Noreen Rodgers.	Morning tea between services; the Hub; UCAF; variety of services; Free Spirit; Munch with a Bunch; Club 2018; 11am service; ministry team; book group; regular lunches.	Response to special appeals, e.g. Frontier Services. Solar panels. Neil leading worship. Variety of services & leaders. Broadcast ministry.	No Bible study in daytime. Need for more communication from CC. Congregation meeting in one day with 10am service. Need Elders. Missing visiting & keeping up with people needing friendly care. Don't like gluten free bread.	Connecting with young people & families. More leaders for groups. Encourage 50-60yr group to find a place, fit in, keep the dream going. Job well done.
1/21/2019 22:58:41	Inclusive Community	Yes. Increased hospitality, inclusion of newcomers.	Joyous seniors celebration and high tea in October. Very positive comments.	munch with a bunch. Light lunches - more people coming. Pastoral care.	Mothers' / Fathers' Days. Special morning teas. Getting to know one another. Introducing newcomers.	Inclusion of all ages and ethnic groups - intergenerational and multi-cultural	Greater involvement & inclusion of families and Asian community in activities. We are working on this.
1/21/2019 23:04:00	Club 2018	Yes. Glen Waverley Secondary College breakfast. Pastoral care from Ministry Team	Choirs. Uniting VOices and Free Spirit. Diversity in Congregation.	Hospitality. Hub. Leisure time. UCAF. 8am service. Bible studies.	Welcoming newcomers. Opportunities for fellowship, e.g. Club 2018, Munch with a Bunch.	Difficulty for some older people to get to church.	Would like to see more children in church. (This may be because the people in this group attend 11am, and so do not see these families who come at other times. A.C.)
2/14/2019 12:01:16	Hub Missional Group	We are.	The Hub. Times of fellowship. Meeting the community at the church through playgroup and Hub and hearing their views and life experiences. This missional group gets to hear what is going on around the church. Hub morning teas involving the community	Playgroup. Missional Group working collaboratively, supporting each other and with empathy. We receive good support from the congregation. The congregation is very generous.	New faces. Development and opportunities. Developing friendships through the Hub and playgroup between participants. Grandparent helpers at playgroup after children gone to school. (new) playgroup volunteer with child care qualifications. (seeking to put playgroup on CV).	getting enough volunteers. The socio political climate we live in. Getting blamed for unclean toilets when it is not us. Our leaders do check the toilets. (playgroup and Leisure Time). The church car park should be for the congregation members who are getting older. Not any user of the church facilities. It is too hard for members to walk distance carrying things.	More space and more storage. Everybody willing to interact with other activities. An employed social worker for a few hours a week. Dorothy concerned what happens when she has to step back from her welfare role. Is there govt or church funding through grants for this role? Should we bring this challenge to the congregation.
	Tuesday Bible Study	Yes	Bible Study, Lunches, Morning teas when we get together, Badminton, Table tennis, Doing duties together with friends.				