

**Meeting of GWUC Outreach and Social Justice Mission Group  
Fellowship Area, 10am Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**

**AGENDA**

WELCOME

PRESENT/APOLOGIES:

PRAYER (MF or minister)

1. **SELECTION of chairperson** for the OSJC Mission Group. Nominations?
2. **NOTES from initial meeting held 20 Sept 2023**,  
As recorded in GWUC wiki - [CouncilAgenda20231016](#) > [CouncilMinutes20231016](#)
  - [MargaretFraser](#), [DavidMorgan](#) and [AnnetteWojak](#) met to reconstitute the [Outreach Committee](#) with [VidaFoo](#).
  - The group would like to propose a formal name change from Community Outreach Missional Group to Outreach & Social Justice Missional Group.
    - This more closely aligns with the Justice & International Mission group (JIM) in Synod, and with the interests of the group.
    - Revitalising the wiki presence is waiting on approval for that name change.
  - Foci seen by the group include:
    - Keeping the notice board current.
    - Reviving the Material Aid collections.
    - Communicating the JIM materials with the congregation, including seasonal items.
    - Communicating information on COP projects to congregation and wider community.

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3. **ACTIONS ARISING from 20 Sept 2023 meeting**

- 3.1 **Name change** approved by Church Council. – we are now “Outreach and Social Justice Mission Group”, referred to as OSJC.
- 3.2 **Update of notice board** – by Margaret and Annette. We have
  - removed old and irrelevant items,
  - removed the word “Community” and added the words “Social Justice” to the existing “Outreach”
  - Publicised the recipients of the Fete proceeds, and the amounts donated to each, with thanks given to the congregation
  - Featured the current Material Aid project/s, eg Share the Dignity, Welfare, empty Christmas Tree with items going to Broadmeadows.
  - Featured Christmas projects, such as Christmas Bowl, other charities such as Tearfund and UnitingWorld offering “Useful Gifts” such as goats and chickens and the Shoebox project which our 5pm service group organized.
- 3.3 **Bulletin and Kingsway items** – items were added for Oct, Nov and Dec to advise about new committee, Material Aid, and inviting new project ideas and new committee members. Trying to encourage new ideas and all-age and all-service involvement.
- 3.4 **Material Aid collections** - Annette has volunteered to organise this. Very positive responses to November “Share the Dignity” (approx 20 handbags) and December

“Empty Christmas Tree” appeals. Investigating Harvest Festival idea for March.  
Considering an annual calendar of projects, noting Neil Peters’ list of past recipients.

#### 4 CORRESPONDENCE

- Margaret Fraser email regarding proposed changes to noticeboard
- David Morgan email regarding OSJC’s possible involvement with Pancake Day
- Wendy Flahive email and letter Dec 12, 2023, regarding possible COP project, see 5.2.c
- John Snare (Cong. Chair) email Dec 18, requesting review of COP administration
- John Snare (Cong. Chair) email requesting urgent advice re selection of COP committee
- John Snare (Communications) email Jan 4 seeking update of Outreach on GWUC website
- David Morgan email seeking responses to idea of drink container recycling, plus responses
- David Morgan (Church Council) requesting submission of OSJC Annual Report by 31/1/24

#### 5 OTHER BUSINESS

**5.1 Priorities for this meeting** - We have too many possible items for the meeting, so need to prioritise. The order of this Agenda reflects this prioritising. Agree to agenda?

**5.2 COP 2024 selection committee and project application and selection processes**

- a. Review processes <http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/CopOverallProcedure> and <http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/CopAssessmentCriteria> in the light of ACNC external conduct reporting requirements as outlined at <http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/ACNCExternalConductReporting>  
What is the best way to address these matters in a timely manner?
- b. Urgent need to advise John Snare regarding COP selection committee prior to Congregational Meeting in March.
- c. Request for \$4000 for Birthing Kits project for Solomon Islands – Wendy Flahive, Johnsonville UC. Email discussion: May be simpler if we encourage individuals to support this as it may not satisfy the ACNC requirements. What to tell congregation?
- d. Invite 2023 COP recipients to attend a service and speak about their work?

**5.3 2023 Annual Report for OSJC** due to Church Council by end January 2024

**5.4 Website and wiki update required** – John Snare requests, as follows:

- a. The church website is out of date re outreach - <https://gwuc.org.au/mission/community-outreach/> Could the new committee think about what should be changed?
- a. Robin Pope tells me that she thinks that the Asylum Seeker Support Group is now defunct. Is this something that would have belonged to the Outreach & Social Justice Missional Group, and if so can you confirm and follow up in some way - possibly formally closing it down so that the database can be updated?

The wiki also needs to be updated.

**5.5 Mission and Scope of the Outreach and Social Justice Committee (OSJC) –**

- a. Is the following draft suitable as a description of the OSJC?
  - supporting social justice, international, national and community projects outside of GWUC, and including our Congregational Outreach Projects,
  - encouraging members to pursue their outreach and social justice passions

- b. In the absence of an active OSJC for some time, some individuals and groups have continued to work faithfully with or without support from the appropriate Mission Group. Who belongs where? In particular, who should OSJC be supporting? This may require sensitive discussion with other established Mission Groups and individuals within GWUC so that we work within the agreed framework.

Could we request Church Council to sort this out so that all groups/projects can be included, supported and monitored under the appropriate Mission Group, as was intended in our 2009 On the Way Together restructure and the Church New Structures 2013V2 document. There will inevitably be some blurred lines and we don't want to discourage any existing efforts.

- c. Margaret has drafted a list of past and current projects/activities and the organisers that may be approached to clarify this. This list may not be complete.

Annual Fete and proceeds GWSC Pancake Breakfasts Honey Money, proceeds to UCA Asylum Seeker Shoebox Christmas project Empty Christmas Tree Christmas card sales Christmas Bowl donations *Pancake Day *The Hub special Morning Teas Welfare materials Kids Hope Flood assistance donations (Rochester) Fair Trade sales Cultural Festivals, eg. Lunar New Year in Kingsway UCA Justice & International Mission (JIM) Synod Climate Change taskforce Uniting World appeals Frontier Services First Nations Other?	Fete committee and COP process Breakfast team, David & Sue Morgan Margaret and David Fraser 5pm Service, Kimberley Easton Office, Ministry Team Faye Wagon, Office OSJC, Office, Ministry team Inclusive Community, Jan Clear Community Hub, Judith Greenwood UCAF, Material Aid bin, indiv. donations Not currently operating Purple FISH group, Fiona Leister No longer active Intercultural group? Individuals? Eco group?, Individuals OSJC, Office, COP 2023 OSJC, Office, COP 2023 Glyn Howells, Margaret Fraser, ?
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Develop a plan of action for this.

6. **Placement of drinks container on church property** to collect refundable containers as a fundraiser. Refer to emails
7. **Topics for upcoming Bulletins** to maintain interest in OSJC efforts.
8. **Occasional speakers at 5pm service** to focus on promotion of Social Justice matters

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

## NEXT MEETING: