

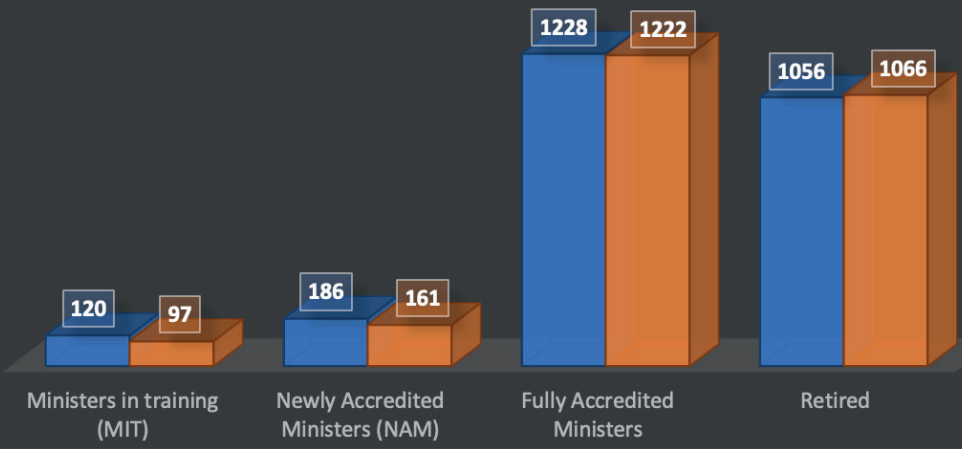


Ministries

The Ministries Team works with our 13 regional associations and five Baptist colleges to support the training, well-being and capability of our accredited ministers and nationally recognised pastors and preachers. Most are church pastors, but many are chaplains; children's, youth and families' workers; evangelists, pioneers and church planters; or are seconded to other ministry and mission organisations.

Ministries Statistics

■ Total in 2021 ■ Total in 2022



Breakdown by Gender

■ Male % ■ Female %



Chaplains' support

The national Chaplaincy Forum is a small group made up of chaplains from healthcare, the Forces, higher education, prisons, workplace, and sport and leisure. The Forum seeks to promote chaplaincy and support the 200 chaplains that serve across Baptists Together. These may be full-time or part-time, paid or volunteer. Chaplaincy is an important part of our ministry 'front line', focussing on time spent with those of no faith or different faith. In 2022, the Forum organised an online day for Baptist chaplains. Three standalone sessions mixed stories, worship, teaching, and discussion with informal mutual encouragement. 120 chaplains attended and the concept will be repeated in 2023.

'Through 2022, the Ministries Team worked with members of the justice hubs to devise and record a series of six videos'

Equality and diversity training

In the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd three years ago, a number of ministers asked for equality and diversity training to be mandatory for all accredited ministers. Through 2022, the Ministries Team worked with members of the justice hubs to devise and record a series of six videos. The resource, called *I Am Because You Are*, helps ministers discuss and grow in their understanding of all types of diversity. The videos draw solely on Baptist voices reflecting on our particular experience of diversity across Baptist churches and mission projects. The Ministries Team launched *I Am Because You Are* in the autumn of 2022 and ministers have until the end of 2023 to engage with it.

Churches' Ministerial Counselling Service

During 2022 the Churches' Ministerial Counselling Service continued to provide confidential subsidised professional counselling for ministers and their adult family members living at home with them. A total of 1296 counselling sessions were provided for 137 BUGB-related clients through the year. This represents, for the second year in a row, the highest demand for counselling we have experienced. Details of the service can be found at www.cmincs.net. Normally 12 sessions of counselling are provided, although this can be extended at the counsellor's request.

1296

counselling sessions were provided for 137 Baptists

Young adults and interns

Isabella Senior started as young adults' development coordinator in March 2022. Isabella has continued the work of the internship project group. She has published an *Internship Best Practice Handbook* to guide any church thinking of hosting an intern or running an internship programme. She has 'discovered' over 50 interns in our churches and is networking and supporting them. Isabella has also provided training and facilitated discussion on engaging with young adults. Various associations, colleges, and the Baptist Assembly have valued her input.





Funding for Ministerial Formation

Ministries Team published a new guidance leaflet in 2022, Funding Ministerial Formation. It advises those in or contemplating ministerial formation at one of our colleges how they might fund their training. The guidance encourages Baptist students to consider opening a profile page with Stewardship. Those wishing to support students can use this for tax-efficient and, if desired, anonymous support. The guidance also outlines a loan scheme in partnership with Kingdom Bank. The scheme is underwritten by BUGB and offers loans for college fees and for study expenses.

Review of National Recognition of Pastors, Preachers and Pioneers

Andy Hughes, Ministries Team Leader for the last seven years, left in October 2022 to become the Secretary and Tenant Relations Manager of the Retired Baptist Ministers Housing Organisation. Andy is replaced by Tim Fergusson and Lee Johnson, working as team co-leaders, from January 2023. Lee and Tim will share in both the oversight of the team's routine work and the development of ministry for the coming season. The Ministries Team is now seven people in total, with Lisa Lowe and Isabella Senior also appointed in the last year. Lisa is the ministerial recognition coordinator and Isabella is the young adult development coordinator.

Sian Murray-Williams has stepped down from the important role of Moderator of the Ministerial Recognition Committee, having served so capably for several years. Linda Campbell and Simon Oxley kindly stepped in as interim moderators and a new appointment will be made at Council in March 2023.

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