



Wk 5

## Sunday 3 July 2022

*Our 9:45am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels. If you don't wish to feature on our stream, please occupy the pews towards the back.*

### TODAY'S 9:45<sup>AM</sup> SERVICE:

- Welcome
- Songs
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:  
[Genesis 6:1-8](#)  
(Bible p.6)
- Sermon
- Prayer
- Communion
- Song
- Conclusion

If you are a visitor to our service please don't feel obliged to contribute financially.

Most St Stephen's collection is received electronically.  
BSB: 062 272  
Account Number:  
00490436

Welcome to St Stephen's. We are glad to have you with us today. Amongst the busyness of life, you have chosen a great option! If you are visiting or checking out church for the first time, we want to extend an especially warm welcome to you! We would love to hear from you so, please take a moment and fill in the Connect Card using the QR Code or the hard copy version in this booklet.



Each Sunday, we spend time reflecting on the Bible. It's the centrepiece of our church life. We believe the Bible is God's word. We believe God spoke through its writers to reveal himself and his plans to the world. We believe it explains who we are, why the world is the way it is and what he is doing to fix it.

Now and then, there are passages in the Bible that we find hard to understand. They remind us that God's words are not ours. They remind us that the world is wide, varied, and its history is complex. Despite this, we have confidence that God will help us to understand what he wants us to know. Come on the journey with us.



St Stephen's  
WILLOUGHBY

# Prayers for those not sharing in Lord's Supper

Participation in the Lord's Supper is for those who have professed faith in Jesus - it's a powerful and important symbol of the Christian message. As such we want to encourage those who are still exploring the Christian faith to feel free to remain in their seats when others move to the front to receive the Lord's Supper. During that time you may want to reflect on the sermon or Bible reading. You may also want to pray one of these prayers below.

## Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me who you are. Give me an understanding of you that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

## Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Saviour and Lord. Amen.

## Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayers adapted from Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York.

## Lord's Prayer

This is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray (Matthew 6:5-14).

Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name

Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven

Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever

Amen

# Sermon Notes

God Is Faithful | Passage: [Genesis 6:1-8](#)

1. What do you want?

2. What do you need?

3. God is faithful.



St Stephen's  
WILLOUGHBY

# Dumpling Making Night

Friday 12 August  
6:30pm to 8:30pm

Food and fun for all ages  
plus a taster of the Simply Christianity course.

\$10 Adult, \$5 Child, \$20 Family.

Tickets available @  
[st-stephens.com.au/thiswinter](http://st-stephens.com.au/thiswinter)





AUGUST 2022

# VISION MONTH

Our future together

# Notices

## Looking back on Sunday Kids in Term 2

### 1. Gumnuts (Preschool)

At Gumnuts, kids grow in their devotion to God's word through a short teaching segments, songs, crafts and free play. What did they learn in Term 2? God is kind and hears us when we talk to him.

*Highlight:* Seeing more kids coming to the group with one week of ten kids!

### 2. Gum Leaves (K-2)

Kids in K-2 are naturally curious and quickly learn about themselves and the world. At Gum Leaves, our kids grow in their devotion to God's word through activities like re-inforcing games, songs, memory verses and craft. What we did they learn in Term 2? God wants all people to be saved; therefore go and tell everyone about Jesus. In the second half of the term, we looked at Genesis 1-11. *Highlight:* A number of new kids visiting. Many of them were contacts from our SRE ministry in Willoughby Public school.



### 3. Blue Gums (3-6)

Kids in 3-6, are encountering more abstract thinking and asking big questions about life. We wrestle with the bible and have fun! Our numbers were small this term. Four to five kids on average. However, we have seen the kids in this age group deepen, not only their knowledge of the bible but also how to live it out. What did they this term? God wants all people to be saved, therefore go and tell everyone about Jesus. In the second half of the term, we looked at Genesis 1-11. *Highlight:* Going away on Square One Camp. The kids had a great time, and they have imbibed many of things they learnt at camp. We regularly hear children answered a question by saying, "This is similar to what we learnt at camp."

We thank God our kids groups, the leaders, and all God is doing in and through them. Kids will be in church during the school holidays. Why not take the opportunity to say hi to them and ask them what they have been learning? Sunday Kids programs resume on the *24th of July*.

## Belonging Course

Last Sunday we held our 1st ever 'Belonging Course'. We had 10 participants and 3 staff. It was a wonderfully encouraging time as we ate together, read the Bible, reflected on the history and story of St Stephen's and our hope for the church going forward. We clarified what it looks like to belong as a member of this local church.



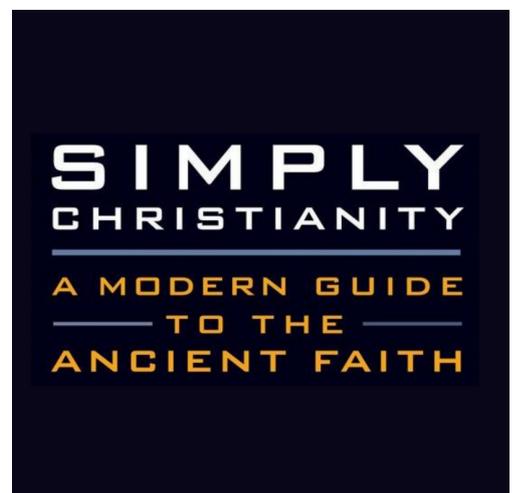
The Belonging Course is well worth doing. We will hold more of these in term 3 with the desire that most of our regulars will complete the afternoon. The course will give you a strong sense of who our church is and how you can best be part of it.

## Dumpling Making Night

We're hosting a Dumpling Making night on Friday 12 August, 6:30pm to 8:30pm. It's a night of food and fun for all ages—we will learn how to make dumplings and then eat as many as we can! This will be happening during the usual HPS youth time and there will be a time for the youth and kids to have their own fun and activities after dinner. We will be showing a short video from John Dickson's **Life of Jesus** video, which will help introduce our next Bring course Simply Christianity. This is a great chance to invite friends, family and neighbours to share great food and to share Jesus with them. [Registrations](#) are now open. We would love to have over 50 guests and 20 continue on to Simply Christianity.

## Simply Christianity

A week after the Dumpling Making night on Friday 19 August, we'll be running a Simply Christianity course at church. This is for all who want to explore the claims and evidence for the Christian faith. This will run from 6:30pm to 8:30pm with food and drink provided. Do you know anyone who would be interested? Why not bring them along and explore the faith with them?



## What's Coming Up

Monday 4th	No weekly prayer meeting for two weeks
Tuesday 5th	Playtime pauses for school holidays. Restarts on 19th July
Friday 8th	Half Past Six pauses for school holidays. Restarts on 29th July
Saturday 9th	Prayer Morning 8:30-8:55am - <a href="#">Zoom Link</a> Meeting ID: 878 2345 9321   Passcode: 836532 — August: Vision Month —
Friday 12th	Dumpling Making Night. <a href="#">Register</a>
Sunday 28th	Mission Gift Day

## Our Staff - Contact Us!



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