



Wk 8

**TODAY'S
9:45^{AM}
SERVICE:**

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
[Psalm 8](#)
(Bible p.539)
- Sermon
- Interview
- Prayer
- 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

Sunday 25 September 2022

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

Welcome to St Stephen's. We are glad to have you with us! We hope you receive a warm welcome and that we can be a spiritual home for you. We would love to hear from you. Would you take a moment to fill in the connect card and let us know you came? You can access the card via the QR code, or you can use the hard copy version.



Today we are hearing from our Student Minister – Sam. Sam is currently studying at Moore Theological College. He's hoping to go and help a local church when he finishes. We love having our student ministers around because they generously offer their energy and skill to serve alongside us. More than this, we get a chance to give them many opportunities to grow in skills helpful to church life. One of these skills is the practice of preparing and preaching a sermon. Why don't you mention one thing you learnt today from Sam's message to him as a means of encouragement?

Over these past few weeks, we have been looking at the Psalms. These songs/poems from the Old Testament give us an insight into who God is and how we can approach him.



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Prayers for the Service

These prayers are used during the service. Prayer is a privilege we are given because Christ died for us. His death & resurrection means we can confidently approach God seeking forgiveness (Hebrews 10:22). If you believe that Christ died to deal with your failings then you should be confident to pray with us. If you are still exploring who Christ is then feel free to listen in.

A Prayer of Confession

Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

The 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.
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 for ever.
Amen.

Sermon Notes

The heavens declare | Passage: [Psalm 8](#)

Join us to explore the
big questions of

life

with

wine tasting & smoked meats

Wed 26 Oct | 7pm | \$10pp

Come and try interesting wine and food combinations, and explore the big questions of life.

Non-alcoholic wine will also be available.



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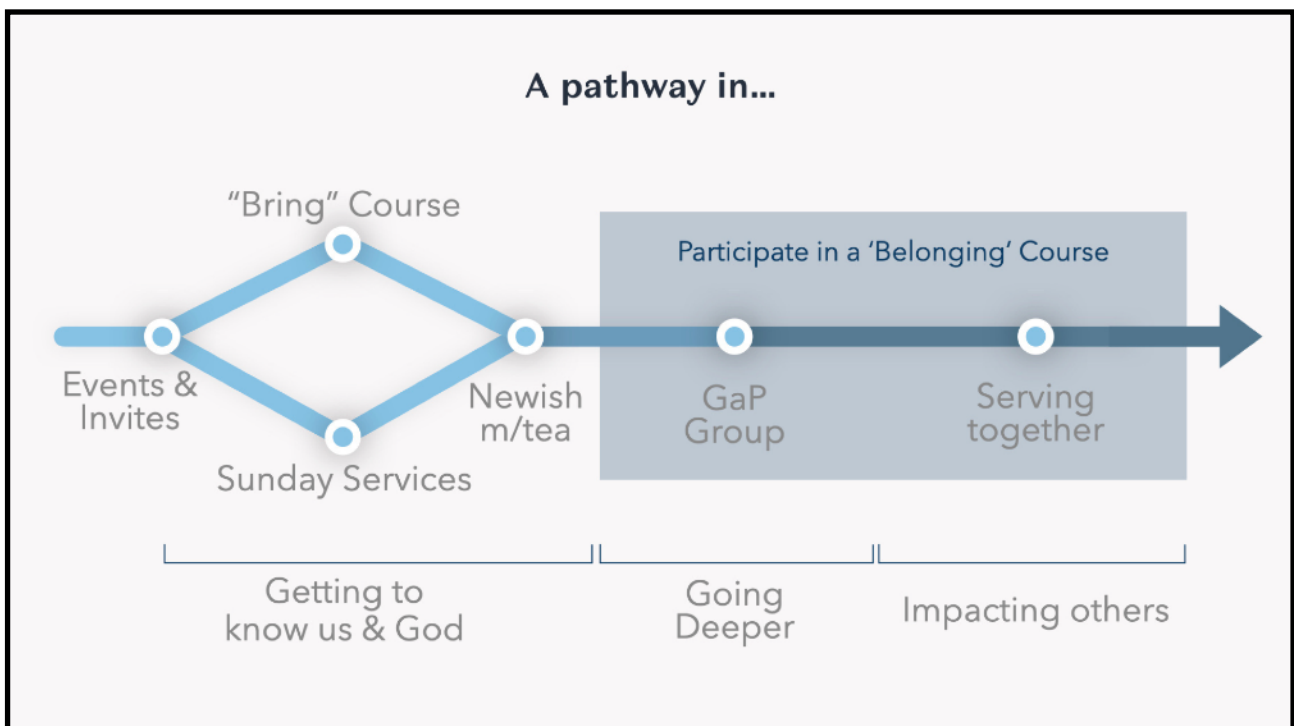
A Taste of LIFE

If you ask Google how often people question the purpose of life, you might be surprised (or unsurprised) that many in our world ask this question almost every single day at some moment. Deep down we all know there is more to life than the here and now.

On Wednesday, 26th of October, we invite our community to join us to explore 'the big questions of life.' This will be a special night where guests (who may never have been to church before) feel comfortable discussing life, and faith over food and drinks. There will be wine and food combinations for them to explore, including meats smoked in Wilson Toh's home smoker. Non-alcoholic wine will also be available. Tickets are \$10 per person. You can purchase them at st-stephens.com.au/spring

This night will be a taster of the Life Course. The course will continue on the following three Wednesday nights (the 2nd, 9th and 16th of October). Guests can continue looking into life with Jesus and explore the Christian faith on those days.

We know that many of your friends have questions about life. We hope this night will help them ask their questions and look into life with Jesus. Is there someone you could bring along?



Notices

Belonging Course

Last Sunday we held our second belonging course. We had 18 participants go through the course. It was a wonderfully encouraging time together. Many participants expressed excitement and appreciation for the opportunity to think clearly about our church and God's plans for it. Thanks to those who could make it. We plan to run another course in Term 4. We would love to have you along. Look out for the dates when they are publicised.



Praying for St. Stephen's

Thank you to the many who regularly commit our church to God in prayer. Would you consider including the following in your prayers:



1. Ask God to raise up a further 15-20 people to join the evening service relaunch team.
2. Give thanks to God for the great turn out at the Lego afternoon and pray he would raise up a team of leaders to start a midweek kids program next year.
3. Give thanks for the work of the Anglican Church Growth Corporation. They are assisting us in developing some concepts for the utilisation our site. Pray God would grant them and our leadership team wisdom as we seek to develop the site for future ministry.

Serving at St. Stephen's

The church is more like a life raft than a cruise ship. It is a place where people are saved, where the issues are life and death. We are not passive members of the community but active in seeking out and saving the lost – knowing we too were sought out and saved. How can you get involved in the life of our church? Check out the serving booklets (available at the back of the church) for ways to get involved and help in God's great rescue plan.

GaP Groups @ St. Stephen's

Every week we have groups of Christians who meet together to read the Bible. We remind ourselves of God's good plan and its impact on our lives and pray for his work in and through us. We call these groups GaP Groups (Gospel and Prayer Groups). We think these are a great thing for every member of our church to be in. If you are not in one – why not consider joining a group? Chat with Prash after the service (or send him an email at prash@st-stephens.com.au) if you want more information.

Simply Christianity

For the last six weeks, we have had 10+ guests exploring faith through the Simply Christianity course. Many were brought by friends, some came from Dumpling Making Night, some came from seeing our street sign! One guest said: "I didn't know where to start with the Bible, but this course makes reading a few chapters of Luke fun." Please pray for the guests as they think through their next steps in their journey of exploring faith.



Half Past Six Youth Group

During the school holidays, our kids and youth programmes take a break. Kids and Youth will stay in the church during the entire 9:45am service for the next two weeks. It is a reminder to us that young people are not just the church of the future but are members of our church today. It is a chance for young people to learn from older Christians. It is also an opportunity for adults to learn from the child-like faith of our young people. When do the normal programmes resume?



Playtime: 11th October
Sunday Kid's & Youth: 16th October
Half Past Six Youth group: 21st October

What's Coming Up

Saturday 1st	Prayer Morning - 8:45-9:15am - On-site
Sunday 9th	GaP Group Leaders Meeting
Tuesday 11th	Playtime resumes
Sunday 16th	Sunday kid's & youth programmes resume
Friday 21st	Half Past Six Youth Group resumes
Wednesday 26th	The life course - opening night
Sunday 30th	Newish Morning Tea

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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