

St Stephen's  
WILLOUGHBY

WE LONG TO BE A CHURCH MADE

*beautiful, diverse and large*

by the gracious work of Christ

Today's  
serviceTODAY'S  
9:30AM  
SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading
- Sermon
- Song
- Prayers
- Vision Spot
- Song
- Conclusion

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

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

## Welcome to St Stephen's

*Our 9:30am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels.*

As we gather for the end of one year and start of another Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 16:13 urge us to reflect: "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." These words remind us that our church's vision— to be made **beautiful, diverse** and **large** by the gracious work of Christ is a life commitment.



To those joining us for the first time, welcome! We're a community that loves Jesus and seeks to grow together in faith, prayer, and service.

As we look back on 2024, we thank God for His blessings, for lives changed, and for His work among us. Let's commit to starting 2025 in prayer, asking for even greater faith, courage, and strength as we stand firm in Christ. May our church continue to reflect His beauty and grow in love for His glory!

**Next Steps**

**Are you new?** We would love to meet you. Hear a brief intro on the life of our church at our next **Newish Morning Tea** on 16 February. It runs for ½ an hour straight after the service.

**Been regularly coming?** If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next **Belonging Course** which runs on 23 February from 12-3pm. Belonging is the gateway to our GaP Groups, serving and deeper connection with the community. Or if you'd like to learn more at another time, you can arrange a coffee with Prash or Jill. Simply reach out - they'd love to chat.

# 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

Our Father in heaven,  
You are big and we are small.  
Thank you that you are the King over everything.  
We are sorry for not loving or listening to you.  
We are sorry that we choose our way instead of yours.  
Please help us live as friends with you  
through Jesus Christ.  
Help us to listen and love you by your Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:12

## 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 forever  
Amen.

# Sermon Notes

# Notices

## Night Church Birthday | 12 January

**You're invited to**

*Night Church  
Birthday Party*



**SUNDAY 12TH JAN  
6PM | FREE DINNER**

Night Church is a welcoming church for people of all ages, cultures and faith backgrounds. We'd love for you to join us as we celebrate two years since we relaunched.

## Lunar New Year Banquet | 17 February

We are inviting everyone to celebrate the Lunar New Year with a 3-course meal with drinks included. Monday 17th of February, 7pm to 9:30pm. Come enjoy a 3-course banquet, matching drinks and have a taste of the world-renowned Alpha course. This night is for everyone and is all about celebrating food, culture and opening up meaningful conversations about life, faith and Jesus. More details to come.



# Notices

## Serving at St Stephen's

Every Sunday morning, a hive of activity begins as teams gather to pray and encourage each other from God's word before they get to work preparing for the service. People set up, practice music, turn on computers, and arrange chairs—each task ensuring the gospel is shared. They smile and laugh as friendships are built. What a beautiful scene!

Beautiful people serve because of a beautiful Saviour. In 2025, you're invited to join a team, serve with others, and make a difference as we share the hope of the gospel.



## Big Day Out | 22 March

Mark your calendars for Saturday 22 March 2025 and get ready for a fantastic day at our Morning Church Big Day Out!

This is more than just an event—it's an opportunity to grow together as a church family. The day will feature encouraging worship, engaging content to inspire your faith, and plenty of fun and laughter. Over shared meals, you'll have the chance to deepen connections, build new friendships, and strengthen relationships that will carry us through 2025.

Whether you've been with us for years or have just started coming, this is the perfect way to be refreshed and united in our shared mission. Don't miss it—we'd love to see everyone there!

More details to come, but for now, save the date and get excited!

# Notices

## Staff responsibilities in 2025



**Prashanth Colombage**  
Senior Minister  
Sunday Services



**Gordon Luk**  
Outreach  
GaP Groups



**Jill Chilton**  
Membership  
Minister



**Pippie Krebs**  
Kids & Youth  
Training



**Nikita Psaltis**  
MTS - Kids & Youth



**Emlyn Hoyt**  
MTS - Kids & Youth



## Evangelism opportunities in 2025

As a church, God calls us to preach the gospel in season and out of season (2 Timothy 4:2), because now is the time for salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2). For 2025, we're praying and encouraging everyone at St Stephen's to invite someone to church or Alpha. The Alpha course will be running on Monday nights in 2025, starting on 17th of February (with the Lunar New Year Banquet). Who might you be able to bring that you could start praying for now? If you'd like to chat more about evangelism opportunities in 2025, or if you'd like support, prayer and encouragement in your evangelism, get in touch with Gordon. He'd love to chat and pray with you (over a coffee!)

# Notices

## Kids & Youth Programs

Jesus said “Let the little children come to me”. At St Stephen’s we love young people and want to share with them the life giving news of Jesus. All programs will begin when school starts back.

Playtime (Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30am): Fun for kids (0-5) with songs, Bible stories, and craft, plus meaningful connections for carers.



Friday Kids (Fridays, 3:30-5:00pm): Games, craft, and Bible stories for K-5 kids to unwind and make friends.

HPS (Fridays, 6:30-8:15pm): Fun, games, and big questions for Years 6-9.



Sunday Kids & Youth: Age-specific programs during services to explore God’s love, faith, and friendships. During January we will have a special holiday program for Preschoolers and K-5. High schoolers will remain in for the whole service.

# What's Coming Up

- 12 January Night Church Birthday Dinner
- 26 - 30 January LiT Camp
- 28 January Crafternoon
- 31 January Friday Kids BBQ
- 2 February Vision Sunday

For more on what's happening this summer at St Stephen's, visit [st-stephens.com.au/summer](http://st-stephens.com.au/summer)

## Our Staff - Contact Us!



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