



St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

WE LONG TO BE A CHURCH MADE

beautiful, diverse and large

by the gracious work of Christ

Welcome

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Song
- Confession & Assurance
- Song
- Spotlight
- Song
- Vision Spot
- Prayers
- Bible Reading:
2 Cor 5:10-21
(p. 1160)
- Sermon
- 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.

Sunday 27 July 2025

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

Welcome to church this morning! Whether you're new, visiting, or part of the furniture—we're so glad you're here. Our vision is to be [made beautiful, diverse and large by the gracious work of Christ](#), and today we're kicking off a term with that vision firmly in view.



This term we're focusing on Bringing our Friends to Faith. We long to be a church that grows—not just by transfer, but through people coming to know Jesus for the first time.

In a world where faith often feels private or even unwelcome, we want to rediscover the joy and urgency of helping others encounter the living Christ.

If you're here for the first time, we hope you feel welcomed and seen. We'd love to connect—just scan the QR code. And if you've got questions about faith, Jesus, or what we believe, we'd love to chat after the service.

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 31 August. 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 14 September 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 Jill. Simply reach out – she'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

Heavenly Father,
we praise you for adopting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.
Yet we still fail to love you as we should
and serve you as we ought.
Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
in whom alone is our salvation. Amen.

If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

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

Bringing our Friends to Faith | 2 Corinthians 5:10-21

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. Our Urgent Task

2. Our Motivation

3. Our Hope

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Discuss together

Go around the group and share a non-Christian friend that you'd like to invite to church, Alpha or a church event this year.

Going deep in God's Word

Read 2 Corinthians 5:10-21

1. What motivates Paul in “persuading others” to Christ?

a. Verses 10-11

b. Verses 14-15

2. Think of your friend you shared about earlier. What might it look like to view them from a “worldly point of view” (v. 16)? What might it look like to view them from the lens of the gospel of Christ?

3. Summarise in your own words:

a. Who we are in Christ and what He's entrusted to us (v. 17-20)

b. The gospel message (v. 21)

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of God's Word, reflect on the following questions:

1. What makes it hard for you to be an ambassador of Christ to your friends? From the passage, what challenged you?

- Fearing the Lord and His judgment (v. 10)
- Christ's love for the lost (v. 14-15)
- Christ's love for you and His desire for you to live not for yourself but for Him (v. 15)
- Viewing people through a worldly point of view (v. 16)
- The wonder and urgency of reconciliation (v. 17-21)

2. In smaller groups, pray for each other to be Christ's ambassadors to the friends you've shared about.

Read the Bible with us!

Using some of the questions to guide you.

1. What comfort is the Spirit giving me through this passage?
2. How is He challenging me through this passage?

Monday - [2 Corinthians 1](#)

Tuesday - [2 Corinthians 2](#)

Wednesday - [2 Corinthians 3](#)

Thursday - [2 Corinthians 4](#)

Friday - [2 Corinthians 5](#)

Notices

Evangelism Training

Nearly half of the population of Willoughby, Chatswood and Artarmon was born overseas—what an opportunity to make disciples of all nations! Join us today after the service for a special Vision Sunday training with CMS's Dan Morris at 11:30am–1:30pm.

Lunch: \$10 (proceeds go toward Come and See dinners).

A promotional poster for Evangelism Training. The left side has a dark background with white and blue text. The right side features a circular portrait of Dan Morris against a cityscape background.

Evangelism Training
Sunday 11:30am–1:30pm
Lunch \$10
27 July: Sharing Jesus in a Multicultural City
Dan Morris

Week of Prayer

[The disciples asked] “Who then can be saved?”

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but now with God; all things are possible with God.” (Mark 10:26-27)

Why do we pray? One simple reason is what Jesus told His disciples in Mark 10—nothing is impossible for God. As we seek to bring our friends to faith, our first step must be to come before God in prayer. Nothing is impossible for God, even your friends coming to faith!

Join us this Week of Prayer as we praise Him for saving many amongst us this year, and as we pray for our friends that He might save them through us.

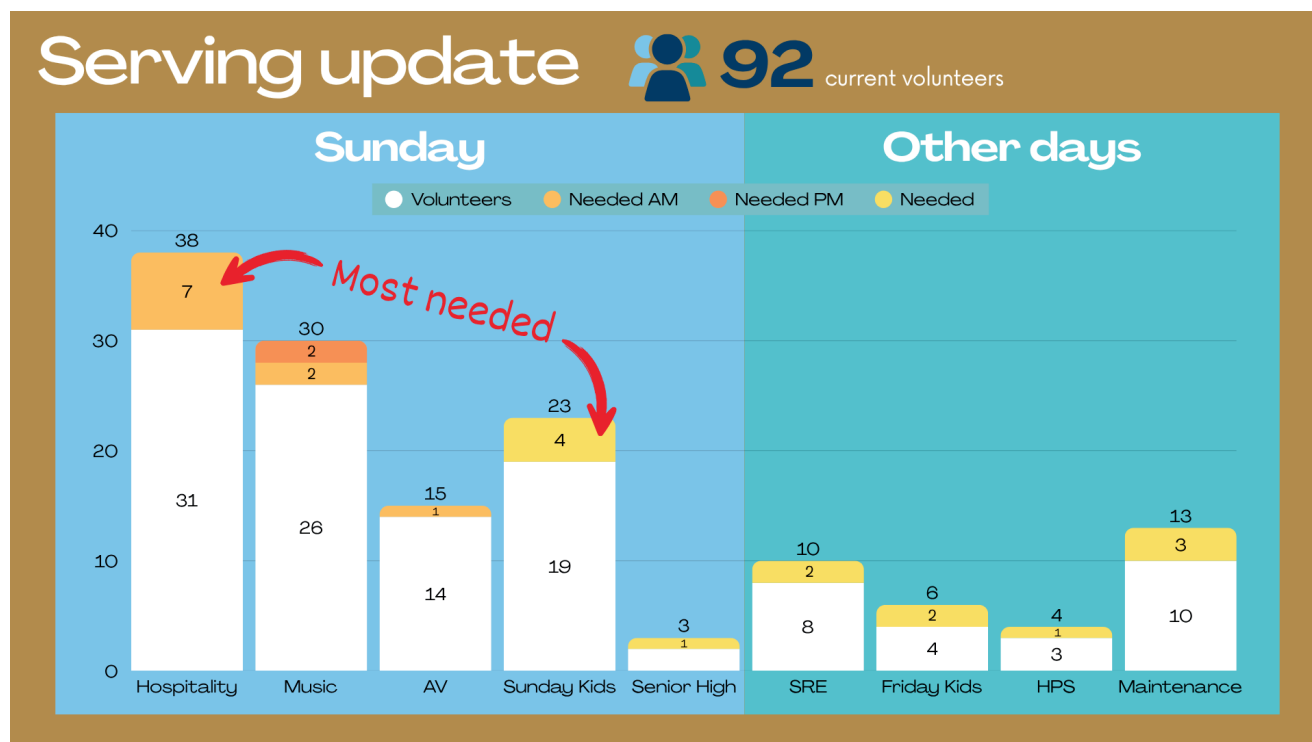
Monday 28 - Thursday 31 July, 7:30-8:30pm in the Chapel Hall

Friday 1 August, 1-2pm in the Chapel Hall



Notices

Serving needs



International Food Feast

Around this time last year, someone from St Stephen's invited Anushiya to the International Food Feast after a chat in a café. She went along—and that was her first time at St Stephen's. God began something amazing. Through that simple invite, He brought her into His church family here at St Stephen's. She did Alpha, read the Bible with a friend, joined a GaP group, and now serves actively in the Gumnuts team.

What might God do through your flier or invitation?

Grab some fliers to give to a friend and help us invite our neighbourhood in our letterbox drop.



What's Coming Up

28 July - 1 Aug	Week of Prayer
8 August	The Send – Combined Youth Night
18 August	International Food Feast
22 August	Friday Kids & HPS Big Week
23 August	Grandparents Conference

For more on what's happening this winter at St Stephen's, visit
st-stephens.com.au/winter

Our Staff - Contact Us!



Prashanth Colombage
Senior Minister & Sunday Services
M: 0432 314 466
E: prash@st-stephens.com.au



Gordon Luk
Outreach & GaP Groups
E: gordon@st-stephens.com.au



Pippie Krebs
Kids & Youth Minister & Training
E: pippie@st-stephens.com.au



Jill Chilton
Membership Minister
E: jill@st-stephens.com.au



Bec Simmons
Off-site Administrator
E: office@st-stephens.com.au