



Monthly NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the HBC Newsletter!



We're so glad you're here. Whether you've been part of our church family for years or are just getting connected, this newsletter is a way to stay encouraged, informed, and inspired as we journey together as a family on mission. Inside, you'll find stories of God at work in our community, updates on upcoming events, and opportunities to grow and serve. We're excited for what God is doing in and through HBC this month!

To get in touch, please contact [08 8339 1243](tel:083391243) or office@hillsbaptist.com

From PASTOR NICK

Hi Church!

On the 24th of May, Pentecost Sunday, Dave concluded the series on God's vision for our lives, partnering with Baptist Churches from around the world to call the church back to its missional mandate to make disciples of all nations.

At each campus we responded by considering how we would invest our time, talent and treasure into building the Kingdom of God. It has been a few weeks since then, and we have had time to digest and reflect on the responses. Do you remember how you responded? How is that going?

Naturally I'm most familiar with Aldgate's responses, but across every campus we have been so blessed and encouraged with how people responded. Each response was unique, however there were a few key threads that weaved across the campuses I'd like to highlight.

The most common response was related to witnessing to our friends, families, work mates and peers who don't yet know Jesus. It is clear that HBC has a heart for the lost, and our love for those around us is driving our desire for them to know the love we have in Christ.

Could I encourage you to pray for your friends and family regularly? Perhaps do that in your home group or huddle, or find someone to pray with around these things.

*How is God inviting me to invest my
time (PRESENCE & AVAILABILITY), talent (GOD-GIVEN GIFTS & SKILLS)
and treasure (FINANCIAL RESOURCES) in His vision?*

I've heard that is important to talk to God about our friends before we go talk to our friends about God. Pray for opportunities to reach out, grow your relationship, build trust, invite to Alpha, share your testimony, encourage them, bless them, give an answer to the hope that we have.

Another common response was the desire to set aside time for prayer and devotional time with Jesus. We are craving God's presence, and (to paraphrase Luke Austin's sermon) to crave it more we need to feed the craving!

Personally, my commitment was to redirect the time I normally met with Dave to intentional prayer and studying scripture. As acting Senior Pastor I've got a lot going on and it would be easy to have all my time consumed with ministry, people, preaching (all of which I love) but neglect the most important thing - my soul.

I've been spending that time diving into the psalms, praying through and summarising each one for myself, and already I've found the time enriching. What time in your calendar could you set aside for intentional prayer and reading? Its hard to maintain, I know, but clearly it's what we as a church want to do, considering our responses.

There was more - reconnecting with church community, growing in generosity and hospitality, handing over financial holds, seeking to meet God through creativity, worship, our workplaces. I wonder and I pray, how might HBC grow if we all followed through with what we wrote down? What might Holy Spirit do with the effort we invest?

Blessings,

Nick van Ruth

Acting Senior Pastor





Baptisms



KINGDOM LIFE



Our 16-week Kingdom Life discipleship course wrapped up this week with a really special final session filled with worship, Q&A, testimonies, sharing, and prayer in our huddles. It was a meaningful way to finish and reflect on all that God has been doing throughout the course. We're so grateful for everyone who took part and for the strong sense of community that's been built along the way.

Together INFO SESSION



Sunday June 21, 4pm at Hills Baptist Aldgate (downstairs)

Together exists:

... to connect sisters and brothers across North Africa, the Middle East (NAME) and Australia

... to build ongoing 'body of Christ' relationships

... for care, prayer, friendship and practical support.

We especially seek those who are not well connected to a wider church body either in-country or outside.

One of the ways we go about this is to travel regularly with teams to the North Africa Middle East region, to build on existing relationships and develop new ones.

Our next trips are in January and October 2027. We expect the trips to include meeting with youth and children as well as adults.

If you're in any way interested in being part of either of these trips (or even later), we are holding an information session to discuss: travel options, timing, itinerary, insurances and more (on June 21, see heading for details).

For more information, contact Craig (0438 250 588) or Kathy (0438 834 133).





At our recent Aldgate Ladies' Lunch, Debbie, Margie and Jude shared real, hope-filled stories from some tough seasons. It was a really meaningful time, with lots of positive feedback about how powerful it was to hear and connect through their stories.



We love that our internship cohort is made up of people of all ages, hungry to grow in God and be equipped for ministry in every stage of life.

Loving the matching hoodies too!



PeaceWise

building peacemakers for life

PeaceWise is focused on helping people learn a biblically-based, fresh approach to navigating everyday conflict. HBC will be hosting an upcoming training on two Saturdays in July. More info and registrations via the link below.

July
11

Everyday Peacemaking
9am - 4pm

July
25

Heart of Peacemaking
9am - 4pm

[More Info Here](#)



HBC Pastoral Staff are undertaking **Mental Health First Aid** training on Monday August 3rd. We have limited extra spots available, so if you are interested to join us, please contact the office at office@hillsbaptist.com.

Note: There is an online pre-learning component that would need to be paid for and completed before the in person training.

[More Info Here](#)

An Update on **LIVE STREAMING**



At HBC, we livestream our weekly services so people both near and far can stay connected with our church community. We have been doing this ever since the COVID lockdowns, and are continuing to learn and grow in this space.

We wanted to inform you that we'll be making a small change to how long our livestreams remain publicly available online. Sunday services will now be available on each campuses YouTube page for two weeks before being set to private. If you'd like to view an archived service after that time, you are always welcome to request access through the church office.

We are continuing with our practice of uploading a weekly sermon video from one of our campuses to our central YouTube account and these will remain public indefinitely. Audio recordings of sermons from all campuses are also uploaded to the HBC website each week.

Our heart is to provide a safe, encouraging space at all of our campuses that facilitates genuine encounters with God in prayer, community, worship and engaging in the Word, while also facilitating a space for others who can't make it to our services to engage and connect with Jesus through our online church experience.

[ALDGATE](#)
[YouTube](#)

[LOBETHAL](#)
[YouTube](#)

[VERDUN](#)
[YouTube](#)

Watch Campus Live Streams (access for two weeks past date aired)

[HBC YouTube](#)

Sermon Videos (one video per week, rotating through the campuses)

[HBC Website](#)

Sermon Audios (all campuses every week)



HOUSE OF REFUGE

CHURCH

Did you know that Hills Baptist Church is a House of Refuge?

We are committed to being a place of safety, care, and support for anyone facing an unplanned or crisis pregnancy. This is a ministry we offer as a church community, not only for those within our congregation, but also for friends, family members, and others in our wider community who may need support.

If you become aware of someone navigating an unplanned pregnancy, we want you to know they will be met with compassion, dignity, and practical care. As a church, we believe every child is created by God and deeply valued, and every person involved is worthy of love and support.

We seek to be a community marked by grace. This means we are committed to being a place where people are not gossiped about, shamed, or abandoned, but instead are cared for with kindness, confidentiality, and respect.

Our heart is to come alongside those in need. We have people within our church community ready to provide support, encouragement, and mentoring, and to help connect individuals with trusted resources both within and beyond our church. We also desire to encourage and equip men to be loving, responsible fathers who care for women and children.

We also recognise there may be those who carry pain, regret, or heartache from past experiences. Please know that this ministry is for you as well. There is grace, support, and healing available, and we can connect you with people who will walk alongside you in a compassionate and understanding way.

If you know someone who could benefit from this support, please reach out confidentially through our church, or you can contact Pregnancy Help Australia directly at 1300 139 313 or visit pregnancyhelpaustralia.org.au.

Things are progressing well on the land at Bollen Road!!



From the GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Governing Council is currently focused on preparations for our June Members' Meeting across several key areas. This includes the initial 2026/27 Budget, which has been distributed to HBC members, as well as the Pastoral Elder nominations across all campuses.

Please be in prayer for wisdom and discernment as members consider the Pastoral Elder nominees. We also ask that you pray for peace and patience for those who have been nominated as they await the outcome of the voting process, and for thoughtful and prayerful consideration of the proposed 2026/27 Budget.

Following the recent cyber incident, short-term remedial actions have been implemented. The Governing Council will soon begin a post-incident review to capture learnings and strengthen future practices.

With Dave currently on long-service leave, please continue to pray for Nick van Ruth and the wider HBC leadership team during this time. Nick has brought a strong "one church" mindset to decision-making, along with a positive and encouraging outlook for our church as a whole.

Want To Give?

Text: Text 'Give to 0437 883 102

Online: Credit Card or EFT at hillsbaptist.com/give

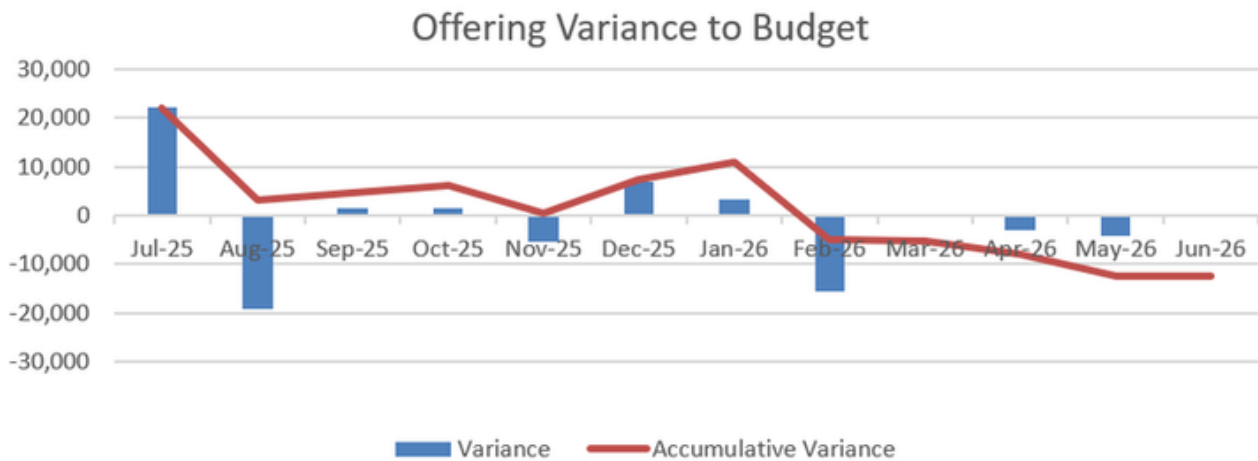
Cash: Drop in the box at a Sunday service

Finance REPORT

With God’s faithful provision, we remain in a strong overall position, with a healthy balance sheet and a profit and loss result tracking close to budget.

We commend the proposed 2026/27 Budget to our church community, which has been distributed to members ahead of Sunday’s meeting. This budget differs from previous years due to the significant building project currently underway.

Offering income for the year is slightly below budget. We invite you to prayerfully consider contributing towards closing this gap in the coming weeks. As at the end of May, we were approximately \$12,000 behind budget.



Campus	YTD	YTD vs Budget
Aldgate	422,373	-2.5%
Mt Barker / Verdun	784,133	-3.6%
Lobethal	172,001	19.1%
Total	1,378,507	-0.9%

What's On

More info at
hillsbaptist.com/whats-on

JUNE

DATE	EVENT	RELEVANT CAMPUS
Saturday 20	Quiet Place One Day Retreat	All Campuses
Saturday 20	JNR YTH - Bounce	All Campuses
Sunday 21	Members Meeting & BBQ	All Campuses
Sunday 21	Together Information Session	All Campuses
Wednesday 24	Wednesday Worship	Verdun / Mt Barker
Saturday 27	Men's Pizza Night	Aldgate
Saturday 27	Teens Movie Night	Aldgate

JULY

DATE	EVENT	RELEVANT CAMPUS
Wednesday 1	Social Media Info Night	All Campuses
Thursday 2	Dwelling Place Evening	All Campuses
Saturday 11	PeaceWise Training: Everyday Peacemaking	All Campuses
Monday 20	Alpha Course Launch Night	Lobethal
Saturday 25	PeaceWise Training: Heart of Peacemaking	All Campuses

gathered.

9 - 11 OCT
2026



Phnom Penh, Cambodia

MISSIONS IS *CALLING* teach at HOPE!

Open Positions

School Year 26-27

Requirements

- ▶ An education degree, a teaching certification, or a degree and teaching experience in the subject area.
- ▶ Strong interest in intercultural community and Missionary Kids (MK) and Third-Culture Kids (TCK)
- ▶ Deeply rooted in the Christian faith

Academic Positions

- Middle School English Literature Teacher
- Secondary IB Economics (DP2)
One-year commitment
Five teaching hours a week
- Chaplain

Administrative Positions

- Academic Office Coordinator



**Teach at HOPE
in Cambodia**



Apply today!



We'd love your help in spreading the word about our HBC family!

Leaving us a quick Google review only takes a minute, and it really helps people who are searching for a Christian church to find a place to belong.

If you've been blessed by being part of our community, your few words could make a big difference.

[Review Aldgate](#)

[Review Lobethal](#)

[Review Verdun](#)

Mt Barker coming soon!

Are You
FOLLOWING?





◆
Hills
Baptist
Church

