

# IMPACT REPORT 2019

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Experience.  
Create.  
Reach.

[clovie.com.au](http://clovie.com.au)

## **VISION**

FOR ALL PEOPLE TO  
BECOME FOLLOWERS  
OF JESUS

## **MISSION**

LOVING GOD  
LOVING PEOPLE  
MAKING DISCIPLES OF  
JESUS TOGETHER

**MATTHEW 22:37-40**  
**MATTHEW 28:18-20**

## **VALUES**

EXPERIENCING GOD  
CREATING COMMUNITY  
REACHING BEYOND

# JESUS ABOVE ALL ELSE

I am so grateful for God's leading and the obedience of God's people as in 2019 we declared that Jesus was Above All Else! We also committed before God and one another we would be a community of faith that would value Experiencing God, Creating Community and Reaching Beyond as our core behaviours.

As a community of faith over the course of 2019 we experienced:

- 41 people make a decision to follow Jesus for the first time
- 25 people recommit their lives to Jesus
- 15 people go through the waters of baptism, declaring Jesus as their Lord and Saviour
- Over 90% of people who attended a welcome lunch are now engaged in the life of Clovie
- 10% growth in our Sunday gatherings and 2.3% (14.3% from July to December) growth in our regular giving

In 2019, God spoke the words unity, holiness and trust into the life of our church as we prayed and fasted.

In my own prayer time with the Lord, I sensed the Lord give me a word for us at Clovie: "God desires to increase the spiritual temperature and move us into a season of repentance, the prophetic and freedom. With this was this verse from Zechariah 4:6, "not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit" says the Lord." God desires to shape us into a community that trusts Him more and more! This is exciting, but for some it can also be a terrifying prospect, as it will mean change and saying goodbye to some old things / ways and saying 'yes' to what God has for our now and future.

I would like to take a moment to thank the staff, both existing and new additions, for their dedication and service. The staff team is in very good health and I thank God for each one. I would also like to thank the Church Council for their support, encouragement and accountability.

I'm excited as the Lord leads us into 2020 and we explore the God Sized dream for Clovie and begin to ask where He is taking us into the future.



Your Pastor and friend,

**Mike Stevens**  
**Lead Pastor**

41

FIRST TIME  
COMMITMENTS

25

RECOMMITMENTS

## A LIFE CHANGED

"God is amazing!! He has totally changed my life!

I should have known He was there all along, but I didn't. There has been a lot of trauma in my life, abuse, rejection, mental health issues, even suicide wishes. In November 2017, I met someone on a bus and my new friend talked a lot about God and the Bible. This friend was baptised at Clovie and I began to go there, too. For a long time, I was really scared of people and went at 11 am because there were fewer people. It was pretty overwhelming but to my amazement, people were welcoming and sincere and really nice. It was like having a new family! The best thing ever! The more I went, the more I saw that people were really living their faith! I cried every week at church.

Something was happening in my life. One day, when I was really down, Cheryl told me about Alpha and invited me to go with her. I found beautiful people and help with my questions.

Lindsay encouraged me to watch the Holy Spirit video and to forget any preconceived ideas. This was a defining moment for me as I heard a 'Voice' say to me, 'Forgive your husband.' I listened - and did it - and felt such amazing relief and release. It was amazing!

Next, I found myself doing the baptism class. I was ready to commit myself wholly to God, but maybe next time! I have a huge fear of water and of steps! Then, at the next baptism service as I listened to people's wonderful stories, I felt God nudging me to take up Mike's invitation to be baptised then and there. Wow! It was like coming home - being somewhere safe and comfortable and loved. I had nothing to do with it, it was all God. He has changed my life so much! I'm not scared of people now. I can't stop talking about Jesus. He's showing me more of Himself. There are big issues happening in my life, but Jesus is all I need. I am relying totally on Him. It is pure joy to be His!"

- Robyn Mitchell

# BAPTISMS

## DAVE'S TESTIMONY

"This day has been a long time coming but I want to start by thanking my Mum and Dad for raising me and my brothers and sister in a Christian home. I was baptized as an infant in the church we all grew up in and then at the age of 17, I publicly professed my Faith in Jesus Christ in front of my church family. I don't think I've ever strayed away from God; I just never had a really strong relationship with Him. At least, not until He set me up with Fiona and we were married. That's when relationships started meaning something more and I

started getting closer to God. Since Fiona and I moved to Clovercrest, the subject of Baptism has always been on my mind. Mainly, I was resistant to it; I've already been baptised so why should I do it again just so I can be a member of Clovercrest? But just recently it dawned on me that that would have been fine if I'd stayed there with that "Church Family" but I didn't. I came here and made this my church, and you my church family so for that reason, and because I believe completely that Jesus is my saviour, I want to be baptised again."

15

BAPTISMS



# EXPERIENCING GOD

## WEEKEND GROWTH

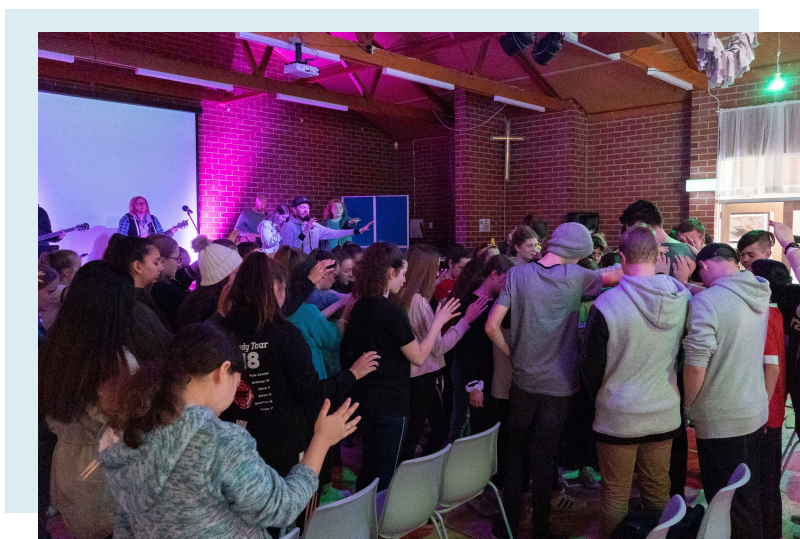
762

AVERAGE  
ATTENDANCE  
(ADULTS, KIDS,  
YOUTH, ALLITY)

↑  
10%  
increase  
from 2018

## A WEEKEND AWAY

Youth Camp & The Weekender were significant weekend getaways for our youth & young adult community. Both camps experienced numerical growth and we continue to see fruit from both weekends. Young Adults are now clearly hearing the voice of God and responding to it, and teenagers have come alive in their faith. When you take a weekend away to focus on God, you've got everything to gain and nothing to lose.



# EXPERIENCING GOD

## PRAYER + FASTING

In February, we spent two weeks praying, fasting, and actively seeking God's voice as a church family. Three clear themes emerged: Unity, Trust and Holiness. We resolved at the beginning of the year that we wanted to be a church that attracts people to Jesus because of our

### UNITY      TRUST      HOLINESS

Throughout the year, we were reminded that establishing rhythms and habits that grow unity, trust and holiness create opportunity for God to shape and mature us in our relationship with Him. It's exciting to see God at work amongst His people, making them more like Himself.

## PROPHECY

19 attended our 8-week prophecy course in October. They commented that the teaching, 'removes the mystery that can be connected to prophecy', and 'makes prophecy feel safe.' Attendees had the opportunity to spend time listening to God for words of encouragement, comfort or strengthening for 30 people in leadership from Adelaide churches who attended a Learning Community held here at Clovie in November. Many were apprehensive about using this gift/practice, but we prayerfully persisted. Such encouraging feedback was received, one person stating that their prophetic letter was 'on point', for their situation. 12 attendees from the course wish to pursue prophecy and joined our Prophecy Team meeting at the end of the year. It is so encouraging to see Clovie pursue this wonderful gift from God!

# CREATING COMMUNITY

## JOIN THE FAMILY

60  
PEOPLE

ATTENDED  
A WELCOME  
LUNCH

95%

ARE NOW  
REGULAR  
ATTENDERS

50%

ARE SERVING  
OR IN A  
LIFE GROUP

"Thank you for being a welcoming and friendly Church! We've been coming from June 2019 and found the (yummy and generous) "Welcome lunch" useful, as it introduced us to the Clovie vision, mission and leadership team. Introductions to people seated next to us during worship services and also connecting with a good Life Group facilitated the process of getting to know people and helped us settle into Clovie. The multiple opportunities given to the entire family (including both our adolescents), to serve the Church in varying capacities, has furthered the connection into the life of the Church. Thank you for being such an inclusive community!"

- Rachel, Jesudoss, Samuel and Ahlai



# CREATING COMMUNITY

## LIFE GROUPS

This year Mark and Sonia Heard and Sean and Jan Boucher came together to launch a new life group. It was really exciting to see these couples create community as they worked together to gather others, some who have been a part of Clovie for years and others who were new. Together they have opened God's Word, shared in a Discovery Bible Study and looked at ways to apply the scripture into their own lives. Praying together has

been really significant for this group, as they have shared life and kept each other accountable to all God is doing in their lives. A number of the group's participants have reflected that this has been such a blessing to them to find a place of belonging. Life Group is a time they look forward to each fortnight and they now love connecting with real friends each week on a Sunday.



CONNECTED  
IN A LIFE  
GROUP



MEMBERS  
(NOV 2019)

## MEMBERSHIP

Our family had been coming along to Clovie for a couple of years. Our children loved the kids programs, and we were forming stronger friendships as we connected in to church life. We were serving at church in different capacities and really felt called to commit to Clovie as our church family. Membership was the next step to planting our foundations down deeply for the long term. To us, membership has really just meant a stronger commitment and support to the vision and mission of Clovie.

- Dave and Danielle

# CREATING COMMUNITY

## A STORY OF IMPACT

“As 2019 draws to an end, we look back upon the Year and realise how prevalent God was in our lives this year.

As Members of Clovercrest we have experienced God at work with the love and support the Church family have given us during a time of a health crisis. This has been inspirational and humbling to see how the life of Jesus has shaped and moulded their lives to be like Him.

We have been fortunate to join a Life Group this year, enabling us to share God's word and expand

our fellowship with other followers of Christ. We have grown spiritually through our close fellowship with one another. We believe God has given us a task to care for an aged gentleman who has had difficulty with domestic life after his mother died. He has relied totally on his mother's care all his life and we have been in a position to reach out and teach and encourage this person to become more independent. Yes, God is awesome!!!!”

## THE NEXT GENERATION

Over the last 2.5 years, we have grown significantly in the area of transitions. In youth, we have 2 key transition points: from kids to youth, and from youth to young adults. Historically, we would reflect the research that suggested 40-60% of students will walk away from their faith when they graduate from Year 12.

Over the last 2.5 years we've been able to change the narrative for us, seeing more people graduate and remain connected to faith or a church community.

This is a result of our commitment to create environments where people can experience Jesus and connect in community. We praise God for students not just having seasonal faith, but having lasting faith.

# REACHING BEYOND

## ANDREA'S STORY

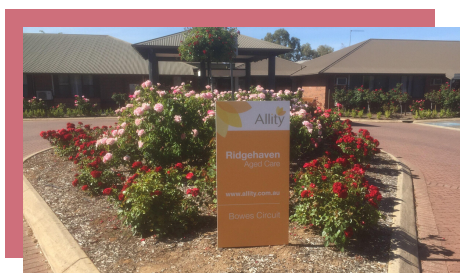
Andrea is a year 9 student in our community who is living out her faith in her school. Last year she started an Echo Hub – a missional expression of our youth ministry in her school. She runs a lunchtime group where they explore God & faith together. In 2019 she had the opportunity to speak in assembly and bring people from her Echo Hub along to youth on Friday nights. She even got to baptise someone here at Clovie – a friend from school who has been part of our community for the last 12 months. It all started with Andrea inviting her along.



A customer shared that she felt very welcome at the Café with her autistic son; something that she felt she hadn't had in other cafes. She appreciated the kindness and assistance she received. Some customers were told about Carols at Clovie, which they were unaware of, and they took the invite cards and on the night popped into the Café to say hello and let Thalia know that they had come – so awesome!

## ALLITY

On Sunday December 15, Clovie had its annual Allity Nursing Home Christmas Carol Service. Approximately 70 residents, their families, carers and people from Clovie came together in their Cafe to sing Carols, hear the Christmas message, listen to personal testimonies of what Christmas means to them and special children's prayers prayed over the residents. The residents were blessed with a special Christmas Brochure and origami hearts made by one of our Clovie families.



# REACHING BEYOND

## COACH

One of our COACH students was previously referred to the program and in the beginning, the COACH mentor found it very difficult to connect with the student. The student was disruptive and disengaged during their sessions, as well as the classroom. The mentor persisted and focused on connection, encouragement and fun as they got to know each other.

In the second half of 2019, the mentor noticed some big changes in the student. The student's concentration improved and the mentor felt their connection was really growing. The student showed obvious trust and they have been able to have open discussions together about struggles and challenges.

The teacher noticed a change in the student's engagement levels and noted that the student would really look forward to sessions with his mentor. In mid 2019, she sent this feedback to the school chaplain on the mentoring relationship: "It is so important that he has time with his mentor. [The student] is always excited to see him. When he comes back from session, he is engaged and ready to learn, vs defiant. The support offered by mentors is so special to children that just need someone to care for them and regularly be there for them."

The COACH Coordinator has also been able to build a strong relationship with the mother of the student and they have been able to keep in touch via phone and email.

## JAM

We are celebrating seeing the transition from JAM to youth. As we finished our second year of JAM, we saw 4 kids plugging into youth and now 1 committing his life to Jesus - so awesome! We now have families from Blast at The Heights school starting to connect in and are we are seeing siblings coming to JAM as well. Parents from The Heights also attended our Next Gen Parent Nights.

# REACHING BEYOND

## PONG A THON - \$10,125

In 2019, Pong smashed records financially from its previous best of \$3,800 to \$10,125. This is truly remarkable. \$10,125 is more than just a good fundraising goal achieved for it represents five people who can now be freed from slavery. It still blows our minds that there are more slaves in the world now than ever before and we believe we have a responsibility for that to be different. In 2019 we have raised a significant amount of money, but we have also increased awareness of slavery, with people using social media in creative ways - from videos, to posts, to even contacting people directly. We can make a change in this space and release 40 million people from slavery.

## ENCOUNTER GET TOGETHERS

You may remember the missions team facilitated 'Encounter Get Togethers' in September. Over 100 people attended these, and here are some of their comments: "A highlight was seeing people put aside a weeknight to attend something like this, and on top of that, participate in equally encouraging and challenging discussion. It provided an opportunity to think about missions and bring it into reality, make it personal and accessible - brought it off the platform and into people's lives."

"Opening one's home to folk, usually is a source of encouragement. When we feel loved, included and supported we are strengthened to reach out to our own individual circle of friends. In that way I think our 'get together' was of value (even a non-churched friend joined our gathering!). I managed to share a snippet from the life of Philip, which had challenged me from a devotional reading. Others shared about how God was leading them to be a light in others darkness.

# MISSIONS

## JAMES AND ASHLEIGH

During a Discipleship Training School we were involved in running, each of the students went deeper in their relationship with God, saw breakthrough in specific areas of their lives, and were healed from past hurts. We had the privilege of closely discipling 3 of the students. One of the students had this testimony at the end of the lecture phase: "I used to view God as an angry and distant God. I didn't fully believe that He loved me. The first week's teaching on The Nature and Character of God and learning who He really is, I accepted for the first time that He really does love me. Now that I've found my true identity in Jesus Christ, I'm able to love myself more and I have more confidence. I'm now passionate about sharing His love with other people."

During this time, James organised a Bible Distribution Day in our local area. It was a really good day. We knocked on close to 500 doors, offered a Bible to around 200 people, and were able to give out 77 Bibles. It worked out that almost every second person that we offered a Bible, who didn't already have a Bible, received a Bible.



In July we organised a six week Summer Outreach. We had around 60 people from all over the world participate. We spent two weeks in Biarritz, two weeks in Paris, and then finished with two weeks in Marseille. In Biarritz, we talked to almost 1000 people about Jesus and prayed for over 500. 20 people gave their lives to Jesus, 12 people were healed and we were able to give out 120 Bibles. During our time in Paris, we joined with the "Paris Je T'aime" 2 week outreach event in which there were about 200 that attended. Together we shared the gospel with 2000 people, prayed for 1300 people, saw 64 people instantly healed, and 37 people give their lives to Jesus. And then in Marseille, we shared the gospel with 376 people, talked to another 676 people about God, prayed for 463 people, gave out 138 Bibles/gospels, saw 18 people instantly healed and had the privilege of leading 31 people to the Lord.



# CLOVIE CAROLS



Clovie Carols 2019 was a fabulous time when the community came together to celebrate Christmas and sing carols. Different teams of leaders and volunteers united together to organise the Family Fun Zone and the Carols service. After months of planning and rehearsing, a wonderful night was had by all. Around 700 people attended and the name of Jesus was loudly proclaimed and glorified by children and adults. We thank God for this amazing opportunity to welcome the community into the Clovie family and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.



# TEAM CLOVIE HIGHLIGHTS

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**VOLUNTEERS**  
IN APPROXIMATELY  
650 VOLUNTEER ROLES

## WORSHIP & CREATIVE

In June, we said goodbye to our Worship Pastor of 8 years, Andy Denny. In the last 6 months, the Worship & Creative Min Team has united together to continue enhancing our worship experience at Clovie. In this season, each member has been open to God's work in and through them. The Team has remained strong and has grown in many areas. We are very thankful for God's faithfulness and leading. Special thanks to the Worship Leadership Team for their dedication to this ministry and for their willingness to be stretched.

# TEAM CLOVIE HIGHLIGHTS

## STEP 7

STEP 7 has allowed 8 year 7's begin their serving journey, with an opportunity to try and experience serving in Café, Welcome, Production and Clovie Kids. It has been wonderful to see these young people flourish as they have tried new things. Two of our young people have been such a blessing serving in Quench Café, growing in confidence and with big smiles serving new customers. Moving into next year, each of these young people are looking at how they can continue to serve as part of Team Clovie.

## NEXT GEN

Our JAM/ ECHO united night was an amazing night of team collaboration across Next Gen. We are so blessed to have a team who work well together with the goal of building lasting faith into the next generation. This night was a great success with a number of Heights school students coming and sharing in the experience. Pastor Ann Hughes shared a powerful message about identity and knowing how God sees us. So grateful for our Next Gen team – what a great time in the life of Clovie to be part of such a team!

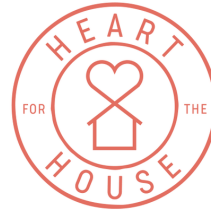
## TUESDAY CREW

The generosity of our Tuesday crew and project volunteers is wonderful. They achieve so much and in turn save the church money while serving and utilising their various skills. In the process, there is great camaraderie amongst the teams. This year in particular they have worked on the parklex/façade project and the Milne Road Shops for Pathway.

# FINANCE

**AVG WEEKLY OFFERING**  
\$18,256

↑ 2.3%  
increase from 2018



**GIVING TOTAL**  
\$165,000

**TOTAL GIVING**  
\$949,316

**TOTAL REVENUE**  
\$1,197,445

DEBT REDUCTION	\$94,775
EXTERNAL FACADE	\$28,464
PATHWAY	\$23,506
BAPTIST WORLD AID	\$7,875
MISSION - FRANCE	\$10,380

