

IMPACT REPORT 2020



Experience.
Create.
Reach.

clovie.com.au
ABN 74480833588

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

FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS

What a rollercoaster 2020 was! COVID-19 caused massive disruption in our society, but we follow a faithful God who leads and loves His people. A passage that has been a source of encouragement to me and for us Clovie is Hebrews 12:1-3, where the author encourages us to throw off anything that might hinder our relationship with Jesus, fix our eyes on Jesus and not grow weary or lose heart. 2020 was most certainly a year where we all fixed our eyes on Jesus, confessed sin where we needed to, and kept persevering! Well done Clovie!

There is so much to thank God for in 2020. Some highlights include: 87 people who have come to faith, 28 people who have recommitted their lives to Jesus, and the 2 people who were baptised!

Our overall engagement in Clovie has grown through 2020 with Clovie Online becoming a campus of our church. It's hard to fully understand how much the church has grown due to the changing nature of restrictions, but we can conservatively say it is in the range of 10-15% – all praise to God!

Our offerings have remained very strong throughout 2020, showing an overall growth of 6.1% compared to 2019. With offerings strong and various government assistance, our cash position as we ended 2020 was very strong – all praise and thanks to God!

Pathway has been able to remain open as an essential service throughout 2020 and continues to reach the most vulnerable people in our society with the love of Jesus.

I would like to specifically thank the staff team who have been amazing all year in being flexible, adaptable and mission orientated in the midst of extremely difficult circumstances. I cannot speak more highly of each staff member – their heart to serve Jesus, you, our local community and beyond. I am also very grateful for our Church Council who continue to serve God in this crucial leadership and governance role.

We look forward in faith into 2021, keeping our eyes fixed on following Jesus as we embark on the God Sized Dream journey.



Your Pastor and friend,

Mike Stevens
Lead Pastor

87

FIRST TIME
COMMITMENTS

28

RECOMMITMENTS

A LIFE CHANGED

A person new to following Jesus this year shared her story: "A friend of many years often spoke of God. This had not been a feature of my upbringing. I attended Christmas and Easter services with them over the past few years. This year, amongst the uncertainty of the current climate, I felt the urge to know more. Another friend suggested I attend Clovie. My experience of Clovie has been amazing. Never before have I felt so immediately and continuously welcomed."

After inviting Jesus into her life as her Lord and Saviour only weeks ago she shares; "There has been another dimension added to my experience of life, which is present in every moment of every day. I see this also extends to those people around me. I am very grateful to all those who have welcomed me personally and facilitated my ongoing experiences."

RE-CONNECTING ONLINE

“Clovie Online has provided a great way for me to reconnect with church and faith after many years. I am able to connect online even when I am not able to physically attend, due to family commitments. I feel welcome and connected as part of the online community. I appreciate being able to interact with others during the service through the chat function and asking for live prayer. I love that if I miss the service I can watch it online at a later time. I can also watch it again if I felt I wanted to investigate further what was spoken about that Sunday.”

BAPTISMS

BEN'S TESTIMONY

“I read a book last year that really changed my perspective of faith. Until then my view on faith was that I should love God to be a Christian and so then when I die, I go to Heaven. To me it seemed like loving God was something I just 'should' do. Praying to Him, going to church were things I should do so I could be a 'good' Christian. But now, I want to love God simply because I want to love God. I want to pray to Him because I want to be able to talk to my Heavenly father and creator of the universe.

I want to go to Church because I want to learn more about Him and grow in relationship with others. There's no longer that motive of doing something because I 'should'. I love and have a faith in God because I want to. I am being baptised today because I want this to be a real stake-in-the-ground moment. A moment in my life that I can look back on and say, “Yes, that was the day where I declared my love for Jesus to my entire church, that I am all in for Him and I want to follow Him for the rest of my life.”



BAPTISMS



EXPERIENCING GOD

A STORY OF GROWTH

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE OF
WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES
JANUARY - MARCH

667

ONLINE ONLY
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
MARCH - JUNE

850

CLOVIE
ONLINE

379

CLOVIE KIDS
ONLINE

HYBRID CHURCH
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE OF
WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES
JULY ONWARDS

538

ONSITE
GATHERINGS

188

CLOVIE
ONLINE

COMBINED
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

726



11%

increase
from 2019

EXPERIENCING GOD

CHURCHWIDE PRAYER

We were able to host two church wide prayer meetings this year. Interestingly, the first was on the Thursday night before our first lock down in March and then again on the Thursday night before our second lock down in November. It was great to set aside some time together as a church to seek and soak in God's presence as we cultivated moments of deep felt prayer and worship. There were many moments of experiencing and expressing joy, thanksgiving, repentance and the Holy Spirit's presence and power. There was a great sense of unity, rest and encouragement.

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

“God has been so faithful. I can't praise and thank Him enough for all He means to me. I guess I have had a tough year with breast cancer, surgery, treatment, side effects, the death of my husband, to name a few things. But that is not what stands out to me in the year; it's God's love and nearness that stand out. He has never left me. I talk to Him all the time and even a few times when I felt there was silence on His part, I always knew He was there. God has known what I have needed, and He has provided, always with better timing than mine! God helped me become kinder to my husband, handle sorting out finances and everything else after he died,

gave me a friend to be with me at home, wonderfully supportive hospital staff, helpful taxi drivers, countless friends, my church family, and I could go on. I can't physically do much for others but because God has blessed me financially, I can give away, and that brings me so much blessing. I have so much happiness and joy in my life, all because of what Jesus has done for me. Sometimes, people ask me why I believe. I can only say that unless you have encountered God for yourself, you can't really understand. He encourages me to 'Be still and know that I am God' and nothing can prove to be truer. I love my life and I love growing closer to God.”

- Robyn

EXPERIENCING GOD

CLOVIE KIDS & JAM

God continues to be at work in the lives of our children. This year we saw 28 kids say yes to Jesus for the first time. We enjoyed creating 24 episodes of

Clovie Kids at Home, even reaching families who don't normally attend church as they chose to watch at home. Connections grew with fortnightly Zoom calls, dropping off packs and writing letters. A huge highlight was when some of our children wrote letters to our older generations to show love and care - and some are still writing today!

We were also able to have JAM on Zoom, a fun way to keep connections high with our Year 5s & 6s. We are seeing kids from BLAST at The Heights school come to JAM and they are super excited to invite their friends. Through JAM we had 2 first time commitments and saw 6 kids connect into Echo Youth - God is at work and we praise Him!

MADISON'S STORY

Freedom Nights was such a significant night for many students at Echo Youth. We saw God move powerfully and in a profound way. One of the students that experienced God was Madison. She had no connection to God or Echo before Freedom Nights. A student from Echo invited her to be part of it and she accepted the invitation to come. On the 3rd night, we gave some opportunities to testify to what God had done in their lives and she got up and shared with everyone that she now believes in God and that 3 Freedom Nights had freed her over the doubt she had about God.

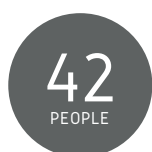
CREATING COMMUNITY

JOIN THE FAMILY

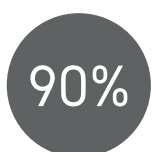
Noel and Raech Joyce began attending Clovie in September 2019. The last 12 months have been a very difficult time for them as a family. While they have struggled and grieved, they have known God's presence in it all.

“Clovie has given us a consistent reminder of who we are in Christ. Clovie has nurtured our hearts, minds and souls through the faithfulness of God, the praise and worship, the gospel centred teaching and the prayerful love of His people. God knew ahead of time what 2020 would look like for us. He knew we would have no capacity to give and could only receive. He knew we would need to be cared for when we were broken and had nothing to offer in return. He knew we would be entirely out of our comfort zone; we needed to be given the encouragement we were more accustomed to giving. He also knew Clovie could offer that to us non-judgementally, in grace and love.

Psalm 23:2-3 says 'He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.' God knew we would need green pastures, with still waters to restore our souls. Thank you Clovie for being God's church to us during 2020. We eagerly look forward to what God has in store for us all at Clovie in 2021.”



ATTENDED
A MEET
& GREET



ARE NOW
REGULAR
ATTENDERS



ARE IN A
LIFE GROUP

TANYA'S STORY

During the first lockdown in early 2020, Echo was given the exciting opportunity to pivot online and increase our reach as a youth ministry. Tanya connected with Echo through an invite from a friend. Tanya is Deaf, and she was able to have an interpreter join her for life group on Zoom. After lockdown finished, Tanya and her interpreter joined us in our physical gatherings, for both Life Groups and Live nights with all our students. We love that Tanya is able to be part of our ministry and experience Jesus.

CREATING COMMUNITY

SETTLING INTO OUR NEW CHURCH

“We drove into a very full carpark for a 10am service in the middle of January. There was such a buzz of excitement and expectation as we entered the foyer. The worship was engaging, the message inspiring, the people friendly. So it was an easy decision to return the following week where we heard Mike cast the 2020 “All-In” vision for Clovie. This tugged at our heart strings and we knew that we were being called to be “All-In” with this our new church. We committed ourselves financially, and attended the Welcome Lunch and Discovering Clovie. These were very helpful in enabling us to understand more about Clovie’s direction and happenings. They were the beginnings of helping us feel connected. Chris, Cherise, Mike & Michelle made us feel so welcome – seeking us out, having meaningful conversations with us and following us up. Change is never easy. For us change involved a new church, a new denomination and a new lifestyle as we were stepping into retirement.



But with change comes opportunity. We were confronted with what this change meant for us when Ian was diagnosed with a significant health issue which required immediate surgery. This was a very confronting and difficult time for us. A time when we needed our church family to pray for us, to care for us and to walk this journey with us. But we were new and didn’t know who or how to access the help we needed. In Isaiah 43:19 it says “I am doing a new thing...” We were amazed as we saw the fulfilment of this scripture during this time. God opened an opportunity for us to share our story with Mike Stevens. The genuine care, the prayer, the follow-up we both received during the coming days, weeks and months has been so thoughtful, and God-led. We experienced God’s care through our new church family from people we have never met. Actions truly do speak louder than words. Our hearts are full of gratitude that God has led us to Clovie.”

- Ian and Sue

CREATING COMMUNITY

PLUGGING IN

“When our daughter was invited to attend Echo Youth by a school friend we were really happy and excited for her to make this connection. She has attended Echo over the last 2 years and we have seen her grow in many ways during this time. During the COVID shut down, our family began looking for a new church direction. Knowing how much our eldest has loved being a part of Echo, we decided to check out Clovie Online. We really enjoyed the teaching during these online services. After a few weeks of testing the waters online

we decided to visit the Church in person. We found the people very warm and welcoming. Our children loved being part of Clovie Kids so much that they didn't want to leave. It was a little like coming home. The way that Ann and her team have welcomed our children and catered for their individual needs has been such a blessing. We were fortunate enough to also join the Meet and Greet in November. The hospitality and company were fabulous. We really enjoyed the delicious food and being able to learn more about the history and mission of Clovie.”

MEMBERSHIP

“We have been coming to Clovie for the last one and a half years. We had been praying for a local church that is both Spirit-led and Word-based and we found Clovie to be exactly that! As the Lord had clearly shown us that Clovie is our home church, when we were invited for the membership class, we said: “why not?” After attending the friendly and informative membership class, we felt that membership was the next step for us. We wanted to be visibly and formally committed to where God had placed us and membership is one significant way to say that we are all in. Frankly, we had no reasons to “not” become members of Clovie. We find Clovie to be a living and vibrant faith community and we love the shepherd-heart of Pastor Mike and our leadership team. Clovie has warmly embraced us and increasingly provides our family with many opportunities to engage and serve in various areas. To those pondering membership, my question is: “why not?””

- Rachel and Jesudoss

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MEMBERS
(NOV 2020)

CREATING COMMUNITY

LIFE GROUPS

“In 2020 I was approached to start a new life group for ladies. My first thought was that I could do it, but I would have to pray and ask God if this was right for me because adding something else into the mix of life right now seemed like a real stretch. After thinking it through for a while I ended up saying No – as it didn’t feel like something that I was capable of in the season – and I said I’d think about it for next year. But I couldn’t shake the idea from my mind. I thought about the suggested participants and my heart was stirred. God asked me a question – He said: ‘what are YOU looking for?’

He reminded me how I had actually asked Him to surround me with Godly women of like mind, ready to seek His face and connect in community. He said ‘Well what are you waiting for?’ So I said ‘yes’, to God and to the ladies in the group. The ladies all jumped in, and I was encouraged – I thought, ‘Well maybe I can do this – with His help.’ Although it was a rocky start finding a suitable time for everyone around work commitments and family, the times we have had together have been amazing and we have shown such support for one another and all agree that the next step for our little group is to invite more like-minded ladies to join us. And now that is just exciting!”

- Mel

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PEOPLE

CONNECTED
IN A LIFE
GROUP

Quench was able to help create community and support other ministries in a few ways in 2020. When indoor playgrounds were shut again in November, Quench had the coffee cart over at Pathway. A customer spent \$100 to give out coffee to bless those visiting Pathway. There was a great atmosphere and community feel. Quench also catered for the Meet and Greet lunches. One lady felt really cared for and special because her specific dietary requirements were catered for. She felt really welcomed to the Clovie community.



REACHING BEYOND

A SIMPLE INVITATION

The culture of invitation in our Year 7 girls' life group at Echo has been something else in 2020. This group started with 12 people and finished 2020 with 40 people. We have seen multiple teenagers inviting their friends and the growth has been remarkable, all because of the desire these students have to reach out to their friends at school.

PONG-A-THON \$12,602

Ping-Pong-a-Thon continues to break records. This year in a pandemic the goal was awareness and engagement, not necessarily funds. Yet in 2020 we saw a lift in players from 27 to 80 across all generations and we raised a new Clovie record of \$12,602. It's been remarkable to see the lift in engagement and funds these past few years. The money raised through Ping-Pong-a-Thon goes towards releasing people from slavery.

COACH

One of our Coach Mentors has been meeting with their Coach student for almost 3 years. The student began as a timid, anxious person who feared school and was frequently absent. The Mentor consistently connected with her for one hour each week, doing craft, puzzles, and other games which she loved. It was the consistency, the chats, the good listening and just being there that made a big difference. Her teacher from last year saw lots of positive changes in her. Her Mentor said it has been a delight to connect with her and watch her grow. She is caring and thoughtful of others, kind, creative and does careful and detailed work. She has learnt how to deal with her anxiety and never misses school unless she is sick. Over time there has been some further connection with Mum and JAM - a monthly Year 5/6 gathering at Clovie that other students at her school also attend. In her recent visit to JAM she chose to give her life to Jesus. One of our leaders was able to connect with Dad and give him a next step pack. God truly is at work in the lives of all our mentors and mentees. Let us keep praying for them as they shine Jesus's love into our local schools.

REACHING BEYOND

LOVE OUR NEIGHBOURS

Feeling prompted by God to look for ways to reach beyond and be neighbourly, we put together 10 hampers to bless the businesses on our street here at Clovie. Together we prayed, walked and delivered hampers to share Jesus' love. Nearly all recipients were overwhelmed by this act of kindness, and felt blessed. A number of businesses also asked us about how we as the church have coped with COVID and we were able to share about our online services. So good to be a generous church and a blessing to others!

One particular business owner shared his struggles during COVID. We were able to listen and pray for him and his business. He was so appreciative of our visit and we trust that God will use this interaction.

- Michelle Stevens & Andrea
Campbell (Work Experience Student)

ALPHA ONLINE

In 2020, we hosted our first Alpha Online with a small group of 12 people. Although the digital format was different, the messages and the sessions were still the same and were just as impacting as if we were in the same room together. Some could not have met onsite and one connected from the other side of Adelaide! Even though we were online, we were still able to connect and form relationships and grow in our walk with God. And God can still move through a screen.

During the "Does God Still Heal Today?" session, God brought healing to one of our participants and we were able to celebrate with this person and see the Holy Spirit move. We saw people grow in their faith and think about the next steps they can take in serving within Team Clovie.

- Nathan McDuff, Pastoral Care

REACHING BEYOND

WHITMORE SQUARE MINISTRY

This is the story of an outreach we won't forget in a hurry. God came, in a wonderful way. The weather was dismal, one of the homeless men in the park was causing trouble, and the only people who were presently listening, were our team. The enemy spoke into my mind at that moment and said "This is going to be a complete waste of time." Yet God had a plan. Ashley began to share his story. By that stage, a few homeless men and women, including some members from our indigenous community from up north sat down on the wet chairs to listen. The rain had eased a bit. Then more gathered. Seats filled up. Still more arrived until we had quite a small crowd. I looked over and saw every eye fixed on Ashley as he spoke. We had never seen that happen quite like that before. There were no distractions. It was clear that the Holy Spirit had their attention. When Ashley invited people to respond to the gospel, a few raised their hands. He asked them to come to the front to receive prayer.

As they began to walk to the front, others followed. Still they kept coming, until nearly every person present was up the front, surrendering their lives to Jesus. It was a "God moment". We had team members praying over them, others giving out Bibles as Maddie continued to sing songs of worship in the background. Some shed tears as they were ministered to. In 11 years we had never seen anything quite like this. People stayed for the BBQ. Lots of warm clothes were distributed. Our friend who had been so disruptive earlier in the day, left a different person after he had been ministered to by a number of people from the team. He was very grateful.

- Richard Hawke, Prison Chaplain
Baptist Care



MISSIONS

JAMES AND ASHLEIGH

"Et comment croiront-ils en luisans en avoir entendu parler?"
In English: "And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard?" But the people of France don't speak English!

Recently, two of our team here in France, met with a young lady going through some hard things. They shared about Jesus and found a real desire in her to know more. As they finished sharing, they really wanted to be able to give her a Bible so she could know God more. But they didn't have any Bibles!

And so, the challenge: could Clovie fund the purchase of French Bibles so that France could hear about Jesus? The goal was \$1000 for 300 Bibles. Within weeks, the target was exceeded. Over 300 French speakers can now hear of Jesus as they read these Bibles. Thank you Clovie!



TEAM CLOVIE HIGHLIGHTS

PRODUCTION TEAM

The lift from our Production/Tech team across this year has been phenomenal! To see the team, with the support of the wider Worship-Creative team, grow in numbers of volunteers and skill in their craft in such a short amount of time, is a credit to them. We've seen a whole new team emerge with such passion, humility and skill to serve. From producing an online service each week and innovating ways to capture our Sunday experience of worship, through to live feeds, live streams, virtual choir videos and pre-filmed sermons - all of these enhanced our experience of worship together and kept us connected through many weeks of lockdowns and restrictions from COVID-19. The video team, projection team, sound and light teams have all demonstrated such diligence, flexibility and persistence in our ministry, bringing such a huge lift for our onsite and online experience of our Sunday Services.

CLOVIE ONLINE

2020 brought a whole new element to Clovie ministry that we truly didn't expect - doing church online! When we transitioned to hybrid gatherings in July, we started to build a volunteer team of online hosts who can connect and pray with the online community each week.

Hosts have been able to pray with people live time while they are engaging with Clovie Online in their homes, even reaching as far as Hawaii! Over the last few months, we have seen prayers answered and have continued building connections with many people, some who are completely new to Clovie. Our team has also been meeting together to listen to God as we dream and plan for the future of Clovie Online. We are discovering new ways to reach and disciple people in the digital space, and we are excited for all that lies ahead!

TEAM CLOVIE HIGHLIGHTS

TUESDAY CREW & PROJECTS TEAM

This year has been another eventful year, given the COVID-factor, but when it has been possible to continue to serve, our Tuesday Crew and Project Teams have always been there! These people have made great progress with putting up the parklex on the building façade, undertaking preparations for the Pathway internal renovations, as well as instigating an upgrade of the AV equipment in the Function Room. Within the Business Services Team, our volunteers (around 100 people in total) continue to grow in community and camaraderie with each other. Whether they serve in maintenance, gardens, cleaning, Quench, IT, at reception or in administration, these individuals give above and beyond with their time, and many also with their resources, to enable the Church to continue to look presentable, to function and to grow.

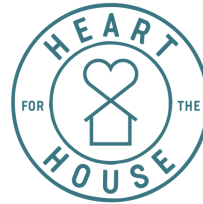
Clovie is blessed to have such generous and talented people.



FINANCE

AVG WEEKLY OFFERING
\$19,370

↑ 6.1%
increase from 2019



GIVING TOTAL
\$158,638

TOTAL GIVING \$1,007,219
OTHER INCOME \$27,040

DEBT REDUCTION \$99,973
CLOVIE ONLINE \$25,727
ASSIST CHURCHES \$17,104
MISSION \$15,834

NON-OPERATING INCOME
\$476,918

TOTAL REVENUE
*INCLUDING HEART FOR THE HOUSE
\$1,669,815

EMPLOYMENT*
62%

*Benchmark is 60%
Employment has exceeded 60% due to not re-charging Pathway for employment expenses due to COVID.

