

# 2025 CLOVIE IMPACT REPORT

Clovie Clovercrest Baptist Church

Experience. Create. Reach.

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#### **VISION**

For all people to become followers of Jesus

## **MISSION**

Loving God Loving People

Making Disciples of Jesus Together

## **VALUES**

Experiencing God
Creating Community
Reaching Beyond







#### **2023: RENEW**

In 2023, we had the overarching theme of Renew – participating in the mission of God and joining Him where He is already at work. God is a God of renewal as the Prophet Isaiah says, "those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

2023 has been a wonderful year of putting our hope in the Lord and experiencing His renewal. Some examples of this have been: 38 people putting their trust in Jesus for the first time; 42 people recommitting their lives to Jesus; 14 people being baptised and going public with their faith; 386 Bibles being given out to people in our community who are seeking God; and Clovie Gawler officially launching in August as a campus of our church.

In 2023, we successfully completed renovations to the auditorium and Pathway Community Centre, two spaces requiring renewal. We sent a team to Nepal to further our partnership with Baptist World Aid and raised over \$30,000 to continue to release the Kapilvastu region from poverty by 2030. Church engagement and volunteering resumed at greater levels in 2023 and we thank God for His renewal and faithfulness in our community.

I encourage you not to rush as you engage with this impact report, but instead spend time reading the stories, absorbing all of God's activity at Clovie and Pathway, and thanking God for His ongoing renewal work amongst us.

Many blessings,

**Pastor Mike Stevens** 

#### **VISION PRIORITIES**



How



Local National International



Opportunities
to Experience God
Community in Life Groups
Contribute by Serving



Leadership Pathways Apprenticeship Model Active Partnerships



Clovie Online Multisite Midweek



Innovative Culture
Kingdom Dreaming Team
Respond & Anticipate





#### **2023: REACH Introducing People to Jesus**

COMMITMENTS



**BIBLES GIVEN** 

#### **GINGERBREAD NIGHT**

On November 23rd, we gathered 145 women for our 8th Gingerbread Night—a cherished tradition within our Clovie Community. What made it truly special was witnessing numerous members of our community inviting friends, turning this into an annual tradition. The atmosphere was filled with the spirit of Christmas, alive with conversations and creative energy.

During the event, Julianne McDuff courageously shared her personal journey. She spoke about how Jesus has been her unwavering source of comfort and strength through all life's seasons. Quoting Deuteronomy 31:8—"The Lord himself goes before and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."-Julianne's message resonated deeply with everyone present. Each woman took this verse home, and our collective prayer is that it brings them lasting hope.

We distributed 6 grab-and-go packets and 1 Bible, hoping these resources will serve as valuable tools for those seeking to delve deeper into understanding Jesus and nurturing a personal relationship with Him.

Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor

#### **QUENCH – OUR TEAM**

This year we have seen twelve new people join our Quench team, with our team now having more than forty volunteers. We have also seen many of our team join us for our Friends of Quench dinners, a place where we invite them to join in the community together and experience and explore faith with us. From this, we have also seen some of our volunteers attend church services, Alpha course, and Gingerbread Night.

**VOLUNTEERS** 

Our volunteers have also participated with us as we reach out to serve and bless our community by feeding people experiencing homelessness and helping Ann bless the staff at The Heights School with coffee and banana



One of my favourite things to see though, is how the team has embraced our value of Friendship by cooking meals and checking in on each other when team members have been sick or recovering from surgery. Not only has our team grown but they are embracing our community and values.

#### **QUENCH - NEW BABY PLAY AREA**

One of our innovations this year has been the introduction of our Baby Play-space. We recognized that the playground is best suited to kids that are pre-schoolers and older kids and that there wasn't a suitable, safe space for parents with infants and toddlers to sit, crawl and play. We have already had great feedback from parents and customers and hope that this will increase the number of people we see visit Quench and experience the welcoming environment.

Phil Davids | Leader of Quench Café

bread.





# MAINLY MUSIC FAMILY NIGHT

In April this year, Mainly Music held their first family night. It was a great night with 11 families attending! Quench Café provided us with a delicious fish and chips dinner and families ate a meal together while building relationships with each other. It was great seeing many dads and other extended families attending.

The families were able to experience a Mainly Music session together, which was full of some favourite songs and the parachute was a huge hit.

We interactively shared the Easter story and extended an invitation to our Easter Services.

This was a wonderful initiative by Julianne McDuff and her MM team, where families could come together in a safe, fun environment, build relationships with each other and safely hear the gospel shared.

Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor

# SAYING YES TO JESUS

Every child belongs in God's kingdom!

This year has been incredibly rewarding as we continued to provide meaningful opportunities for our Clovie Kids to encounter God in ways that are authentic and meaningful to them. We're thrilled to share that 19 children embraced a relationship with Jesus for the first time this year. Our joy stems from nurturing an environment where our children can respond to Jesus in ways that resonate with their hearts and minds, considering their age and stage in their faith journey.

Additionally, we've distributed 14 Kids' Bibles and numerous devotional materials, empowering our kids to explore their faith more deeply. It was a moment of celebration as we witnessed the baptism of two children who chose to publicly declare their faith—an inspiring testament to their commitment.

Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor





#### **CLOVIE EATS**

This year, we've provided 111 meals to families facing challenges. Our ministry, Clovie Eats, aims to extend blessings to not just our church community but also to those beyond it. We offer support, from commemorating new arrivals to providing comforting home-cooked meals. Whether individuals are experiencing grief, illness, or navigating tough times, our hope is that these meals bring relief and serve as a reminder of God's love and the supportive community at Clovie. It's our way of showing care and compassion during difficult seasons.

Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor



#### **CONNECTIONS AT THE HEIGHTS**

We continue to seek opportunities to show Jesus in the Heights School. One avenue for fostering connections is through our Wednesday Lunchtime program. Witnessing the joy on the faces of many students when they know BLAST is on is truly heartwarming. One little girl asked me, "Are you going to teach us more about Jesus?" It's an incredible privilege to answer that question with a "yes." During these sessions, I had the opportunity to share the Easter story, and one little girl remarked, "Jesus sounds like the most amazing person." Another boy expressed, "When I see the cross now, I will think of Jesus." On a different occasion when discussing worry, a young girl opened up to me about her concerns, allowing me to pray with her. In the presence of Jesus, nothing is insignificant or overlooked.

**Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor** 





#### MISSION TRIP TO NEPAL

It was a blessing and privilege to be part of the Baptist World Aid team that went to Nepal in October. It was so encouraging to see how Clovie's investment in the villages in Kapilvastu is being used effectively to raise so many out of poverty, with greater dignity and purpose.

I love being in South Asia, but what surprised me was how God took me to Nepal to confirm His call to me to reach out through friendship to the people in my local community. Evangelism in Nepal, like Australia, is most effective through friends reaching out to friends. I step away from paid employment into a new season of seeking where I can partner with God in what He is doing in my street and local community, while still praying for and being involved where I can in what He is doing beyond.

Pam Wiggins | Clovie Congregation



#### **ECHO CARNIVAL**

Every year, Echo (Yr7-12) and Jam (Yr5-6) combine for a carnival night. The night is filled with carnival games, food and so much fun! This year we had mini golf, a basketball shooter, air hockey, volleyball, fresh popcorn, snow cones, fairy floss and many more activities. It was just so great seeing the combination of Jam and Echo and how the year levels interacted with each other as a family.

This year at carnival we had 120 youth come along, 1 first time commitment, and many re-commitments through the response time after the message of God's love! God is so good!

Tim Goldney | Youth Pastor

#### READING THE BIBLE WITH A FRIEND

In Year Twelve, my friend had many questions about faith. I would answer them the best I could though they often caught me 'off guard'. Although we continued to be good friends over the years, the faith questions stopped. I didn't know how to start the conversation again. Then at a Young Adults' event, we were introduced to the Discovery Bible Study – a tool suggesting Bible passages and questions to lead discussion. I took on the challenge to invite my friend to read the Bible with me using this, and she said yes! We met in a public space, I brought her a Bible from the Church, and we talked over cake. This was a positive experience, she still had well thought-out questions and wanted to read and discuss multiple passages while we met. I will continue to invite her to nights like our Ladies Gingerbread Night and Church Carols while trusting God for future discussions.

**Anonymous | Young Adult** 

#### PERSPECTIVE EASTER EVENT

Our theme for our Seniors Perspective Ministry for 2023 was "Reaching Beyond". At Easter, we focused on Reaching Beyond the Cross. A gospel message was presented and two of our Seniors indicated they wanted to take the next step in their faith journey. Others were encouraged and challenged on how they can reach beyond in inviting people to Perspective and Church.

Nathan McDuff | Pastoral Care Pastor





#### **PING-PONG-A-THON 2023**

In October, we played 24 hours of Pong and raised a total of \$8,737. These funds will go towards Pong's 8 different partners who work to combat modern-day slavery. Pong estimates it costs \$1800 to free 1 person from slavery - so these funds could free up to 4 lives!

Ashlee Jackson | Online & YA Pastor



#### **DISCIPLESHIP TEAM**

Our D Team are a group of people who walk alongside those who are new to faith or exploring a relationship with Jesus. Through participation in the D Team, Graeme Mulligan has had an opportunity over the past twelve months to get to know an asylum seeker from a Central Asian country. Over many coffees, Graeme has been able to listen to this man's story of fleeing for his life and his faith journey. He was forced to leave his homeland as a teenager and then his country of refuge in his early twenties when his life again came under threat. His journey to faith in Jesus started when he was in detention in Nauru. A worker from the Salvation Army reached out to him and he was then embraced by an Anglican faith community in Melbourne. Coming to Adelaide about two years ago, he was introduced to Clovie by friends from the church in Melbourne. In sitting and listening to this man's story of life and faith, Graeme has been humbled and blessed to see how God has been at work in his life and drawing him to Himself. He has been encouraged by the resilience of his faith in the face of many difficulties, having left his family behind while continuing to wait for permanent residency in Australia.

Michelle Stevens | Executive Pastor



#### **CLOVIE GAWLER EASTER SUNDAY IN THE PARK**

A great example of God working all things together for good was evidenced in our Easter Sunday Service. We didn't have access to the building we were meeting in for the weekend, so we had a service in the park at Apex park, with picnic chairs and hot cross buns. It was great to be out in the community. We also had the opportunity to minister to some of the local homeless community who often spend time in park. God is great!

Jason Lippitt | Clovie Gawler Campus Pastor

#### **CLOVIE GAWLER SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB**

We've seen growth in numbers and those wanting to be involved in the community. We now run a breakfast club twice weekly in the local primary school (Evanston Gardens), serving around 50 kids who wouldn't normally eat breakfast before school, showing them Jesus' love in a very practical way. I also praise God for the growth we've seen in people's lives, a re-dedication to faith, a new follower of Jesus, a new life group and two new prayer groups. How good is God!

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Jason Lippitt | Clovie Gawler Campus Pastor







# 2023: GROW Going deeper with Jesus and Community

AVERAGE CLOVIE MODBURY NTH ATTENDANCE

104
AVERAGE ONLINE
ATTENDANCE

AVERAGE CLOVIE GAWLER ATTENDANCE

625
TOTAL WEEKLY
AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE

↑8% FROM 2023

#### YOUNG ADULT LIFE GROUP

Our Young Adult Life Group is comprised of people who are finished with full-time study and are now wrestling with what it looks like to follow Jesus in the workplace. We've seen a lot of people join the group this year, and everyone has actively participated authentically. People are not just engaging in the group but are building connections outside of it as well. For our group, the highlight seemed to be the Young Adult conference where we were challenged to be real about our doubts and struggles. We have since seen that play out in our group in a healthy way. I look forward to seeing what God does in 2024.

Mark Wallis | Young Adults Leader

#### **GROWING & SERVING TOGETHER**

2023 has seen the Church come together for two significant building projects - upgrading the auditorium and renovations at Pathway.

For the auditorium work, we engaged builders and contractors to renew the air conditioning, ceiling, electrical and audio-visual equipment and install new carpet. Our team worked tirelessly to pull up the old carpet, relocate and build a new sound desk, put in wings, renovate the stage, create a new drum box and paint. Others assisted with cleaning, clean up around the building, and moving chairs and equipment in and out of the function room where we were located during the renovations.

CLOVIE MODBURY NORTH AUDITORIUM UPGRADE

PATHWAY / TREASURED RENOVATION

The renovations for the Church's Pathway building of an internal upgrade to Treasured Op Shop and the new Food Services area, commenced in the last quarter of 2023. A pergola was added on the back of the building at the conclusion of 2022 and a new canopy has been added to the front of the building along with new paving during the recent works.

We sincerely thank all who invested time and resources into these projects, particularly Lee Haakmeester and the Tuesday Crew. Such a wonderful work that has made a significant difference to these spaces and the lives of those who connect with Clovie and Pathway. We saw God's hand in these projects with provision, timing of works and the talent and connections He provided along the way, and we know that He will use these facilities for His glory and the benefit of the community for many years to come.

**Cherise Burton | Business Manager** 









This year we have seen a growing engagement in our corporate prayer and worship nights, where we come together to worship and bring the needs of our communities before Him. I'm encouraged by the growing hunger of His people to engage this way. As we experience God together in corporate prayer and worship, faith rises, and we start developing an anticipation about what He will do next.

The intercessor's list has grown, with more than 40 people who pray for the requests that come through the office and Online. I would love to see this functionality used a lot more by our congregation and intend to promote this more widely in the future.

Mel Walladge | Leader for Prayer

# **CLOVIE GAWLER KID'S MINISTRY**

A new kids ministry has started on Sunday mornings at Clovie Gawler, thanks to Nichole and Harmony Tiller, with the wonderful support of Ann Hughes. This is a great example of the Clovercrest Baptist Church family working together. We now have a team of volunteers helping out with this ministry on Sunday mornings. Praise God!

Jason Lippitt | Clovie Gawler Campus Pastor

#### **CLOVIE IS HOME**

"9th April 2022 was the first day I stepped foot in Clovie to check it out. I'm still here and no regrets whatsoever.

From Sunday services, connect group meetups and serving with the worship team, my connection with the Clovie family has been remarkable. I have been blessed and refreshed serving in the house. However, my Clovie journey has been one of simple grace and love.

I felt the love of the Clovie family when I lost my dad last year. I cherish Craig's words of encouragement and prayers from a few others.

When I bought a place in November last year, I planned on moving a few things from Queensland down and saving up to buy the rest of the furnishings required. Once again, the Clovie family was remarkable. I got so many household items from Tim & Emma, Pam & Craig and David & Fiona. I was so blessed that my problem was how would I then be a blessing to others in need.

Clovie has taught me how the simple, everyday things in life count much more than we think.

I'm glad to be a member of this household of God. Clovie is home."

**Eguono | Clovie Creative Team** 





The Marriage Course

#### THE MARRIAGE COURSE

It was wonderful to run the Marriage Course again this year, with 13 couples connecting Online over 7 weeks to learn and grow in their relationship. Here's what Aaron and Jess Cook shared about the experience (permission given to use name):

'Despite being in the middle of a challenging and busy season, we decided to plunge in and do the Alpha Marriage Course. Our marriage was overdue for some investment. To be honest there were nights when we were tired and felt pressured, but each time we sat down in front of the zoom we were drawn in by the content and enriched by our time connecting. This exposed the lie too easily believed in our busy lives, 'it's too hard to find time to invest in our marriage.' We enjoyed adding a 'date' flavour to the sessions by preparing a tray of special snacks to secretly (or not so secretly) nibble on (or gobble on).

We appreciated that the course left no stone unturned and sensitive topics were handled gently. We gained quick tools of application such as 'what is one thing I can do to make your day better?' This is a love-loaded question and very helpful to increase sensitivity to understanding your partner. We were also guided to dig up the hard ground of those heavier conversations we were probably ignoring a bit and need more time and focus... another cause for date nights. Win Win! But not only were we blessed by the helpful advice and insights to deepen our relationship, but we shared a sense of joy for the growth and strengths of our marriage. Not everything needed fixing! Despite our hardships along the way, we celebrate God's grace which is binding us together more and more.'

Michelle Stevens | Executive Pastor













#### **BAPTISMS AT CLOVIE**

This year we have celebrated 11 baptisms at Clovie Modbury North and 3 baptisms at Clovie Gawler! Each baptism represents a profound and personal commitment to faith and a significant milestone in the spiritual journey of individuals within our community. It's a testament to the thriving spiritual life and the growth of our church family.

Keith, one of our Seniors at Clovie Modbury North was baptised this year at age 86! A wonderful reminder that it is never too late in your faith journey to take the next step.

"I was brought up Baptist and growing up I attended Prospect Baptist Church. I then moved around the country and ended up back at Prospect Baptist.

I began working 7 days a week, and this and some overseas living meant that I didn't attend church for some time. It was during this time I had a major disruption in my life. My wife and son died within 6 weeks of each other. I was very involved in the RSL and U3A so I found myself driving down Milne Road many times a week and as I would pass Clovie, I repeatedly felt God telling me loudly to "GO IN THERE".

So one day I gave in and went to church at Clovie. Here I was met by Werner and Chris Meinel, and I ended up joining their Mission Prayer Team which resulted in my involvement with B4T (Business for Transformation). I also joined David and Margaret George's life group with many other good Christian people. I have now joined Nathan's Care Group, which is dedicated to helping all, which is why we are all here.

Through the many good influences of these groups and people, I have chosen to be baptised at the ripe age of 86."

Keith Fitzgerald | Clovie Congregation

#### **ENCOUNTER NIGHT**

"Recently, at Echo Youth, we had an encounter night which meant that there was going to be an opportunity for everyone to experience the Holy Spirit. I was hoping that God would show Himself to me and that is exactly what happened when my youth leader Andrea prayed for me during worship. She sat down next



to me and prayed for me and at that moment I felt the Holy Spirit. She prayed for me about hearing God and tuning my ears to hear His voice. When I truly listened to God instead of worrying, then I felt His presence.

Now I realise that worrying is never the answer when confused about my faith but instead, I should pray and listen to what God is saying to me. After this encounter, I want to get baptised to show everyone that I love God and want to continue to grow and be more like Him now that I know that He is always there for me."

Jasmine | Echo Youth

#### **ECHO YOUTH SOCIAL NIGHTS**

This year, Echo Youth has been all about building up our community vibes. We've been focused on helping students forge stronger connections and extending a warm welcome to anyone keen on joining our crew. Our epic social nights have been a massive part of this!

We've thrown three big social nights this year—hanging out at Inflatable World, making waves at Waterworld, and turning the church into a legit disco. These nights have been some of the highlights of our year, pulling in a bunch of new faces, including loads of first-timers. Through these events, we've been able to reach many young people and help them to connect to our ministry.

On these nights I have personally enjoyed watching youth of all ages mix. It's been wonderful to see older youth care for and invest in the lives of the younger ones, and it's equally great to see our younger youth not being afraid to mix with the older crowd!

Looking ahead to 2024, I'm stoked for more of these social nights. More chances for laughs, connections, and bringing in even more awesome young people into the Echo Youth family. It's gonna be a blast as we continue to reach the young people in our local area.

**Ben Heard | Youth Leader** 



**Echo Youth Camp 2023** 



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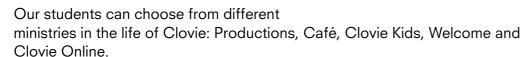


# 2023: MULTIPLY Raising and Releasing Leaders

#### **STEP 7 PROGRAM**

Step 7 is designed to help our Year 7 students find their fit when it comes to serving in the life of the church.

In 2023, we had 10 students take part in Step 7. They gather each term in small huddles to learn and grow in their leadership together.



STEP 7

This is a wonderful way to invest in the next generation and help them find ways they can contribute and realise that they are a valuable part of God's kingdom.

Many of them have found their fit and will continue to serve in the ministry they feel called to in 2024.

Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor



I love Clovie's commitment to developing leaders and I have been blessed over the years to learn and grow in my leadership capabilities. However, this year **MINISTRY** has stood out compared to the rest. I have been given incredible opportunities **INTERNS** to step into new spaces as a leader within ministry, while also being provided opportunities to learn how to lead well and effectively. I have had the privilege of learning from our lead pastor Mike about what effective leadership in youth ministry looks like. I have heard and learned from Steve Dixon about what fruitful ministry looks like and learned how I can help make my ministry fruitful. I have also been privileged to walk closely alongside Tim. It has been incredible learning from him about how I can grow in my leadership at Echo (and see him 'killing it' as our youth pastor). If I had to summarize all I have learned, it would be in this phrase "Disciples are handmade not mass produced." This is what I am praying I will be able to do through my leadership, hand make disciples so they can in turn "make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit". (Matt 28:19)

Elijah Hughes | Clovie Intern

#### **INTERNSHIP**

This year, partnering with Tabor Bible College, we began an Internship subject for three of our young people who are currently studying ministry. Anneliese and Andrea share how they found the experience:

'Being able to do an internship with Clovie this year has been a wonderful blessing. I was able to serve in and better understand the inner workings of Online and Youth Ministries, whilst sharing my internship journey regularly with Michelle Stevens and the other interns. I met regularly with my mentor and discovered tools for effective leadership and evangelism. I was able to be part of the Alpha Online team, discovered how to pray for others Online and was able to witness God at work in their lives. I was also given the opportunity to preach at youth for the first time and be honoured to see God speak through me and touch the youths' hearts, and from that develop new and deeper connections with the youth. I was also given space to innovate and start hosting a space to worship God freely through dance, in community. This ministry initiative is still in its early days but has been wonderful for refreshment and deeper connection with God and each other.'

#### Anneliese Coleopy | Clovie Intern

I absolutely loved having the opportunity to merge studying ministry with the practical part of not only serving in church but also being mentored and led by my pastors and leaders. I have seen so much growth in myself and the other interns as we have learned how to engage with ourselves, our church community and our culture. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve at Clovie and am so excited for what the future holds for us as interns, but also as a church that disciples people so well!

Andrea Campbell | Clovie Intern







#### YOUNG ADULTS

# DEVELOPING LEADERS IN THEIR AREAS OF STRENGTH

In August, our Young Adults Team spent time in a workshop, looking at the 'Leading From Strengths' tool. After completing a personal questionnaire, our YA Pastor, Ash, brought the team together to spend time understanding one another better. As we looked at how we process information, manage change, communicate, and more, we realised we are all different. We could see this as a weakness, but when we are empowered to lead from our areas of strength, we can do more together!

#### **YA Participant**

As we dream of a future where Young Adults build lasting faith, we are grateful to have a group of committed volunteers who are eager to develop in their leadership and work together as a strong team.

Ashlee Jackson | Online & YA Pastor

#### CLOVIE CREATIVE TEAM

It's been great to be on the Creative Team this year. I appreciate the relational approach Pastor Luke takes in leading the team. Our team nights have been refreshing and enriching. The team adapted well to being in the Function Room and I enjoyed the 'pulled-back' style and being closer to the congregation. Luke and Harry put in a lot of work to set up the Function Room and transition back to the Auditorium without any issues or disruptions to the on-site Services and Online experience. Several people have commented to me that they can hear each instrument more clearly now after the Auditorium upgrade and this helps them engage in worship wholeheartedly.

The Habbukuk series this year was a standout and highlight for me, as it was a book of the Bible I didn't know well and felt I connected with it as God spoke into my situation and circumstances.

#### **Emily Fawcett | Clovie Creative Team**





In October, our annual Clovie Groups Seminar unfolded with a vibrant focus on 'Hope and Renewal.' 24 of our leaders gathered for a morning centered around fostering:

- A sense of belonging and connection among leaders.
- Personal growth, nurturing individual flourishing through diverse experiences.
- Infusing Hope and Renewal through worship, nature, play, food, and shared stories.

During the Seminar, leaders were reminded of the profound impact of shared stories. These narratives illuminated hope and renewal found within life groups, services, community engagement, the enduring journey of discipleship, and the realm of art and creativity.

The feedback from this event resounded with positivity and encouragement, echoing the resonance of its themes. For those considering stepping into leadership or joining a Clovie Group, this is an opportune moment to step up and forward, embracing the call to lead or co-lead a group and be part of this enriching community journey.

#### **FAITH AND WORK**

Last year, Clovie partnered with 18 Australian churches to pioneer a church pilot program centered on integrating discipleship formation into our everyday vocations.

You might remember participating in the faith and work survey last year, helping us grasp our connections between church, discipleship, and vocations.

We've assembled a committee of Marketplace Leaders—Lauren Field, Nick Jackson, Emily Fawcett, Simeon Lawson, Elizabeth Campbell—guided by facilitator Chris Partington.

Across Australia, this church pilot involves 18 churches spanning 5 states, 7 denominations, encompassing both urban and regional settings, diverse ethnicities, and church sizes, engaging 5000 individuals.

At Clovie, our committee and Ministry team are exploring ways to empower and equip people within their vocational journeys. This initiative aligns with Clovie's Vision, Mission and Values, offering tremendous opportunities for transformative discipleship. Keep an eye out for updates in 2024 on how you can engage and be part of this impactful movement.

**Chris Partington | Leader for Clovie Groups** 



#### 2023: EXPAND One Church, Many Gatherings

#### **WORSHIP & WORD ON WEDNESDAY**

Our Young Adults gather every fortnight, and cycle through a rhythm of experiencing God, spending time in connected community, and learning how to share our faith. On our 'Experience Nights,' our YAs have been moving through the book of Ephesians. We have embraced this letter, and as each speaker brought a word on these scriptures, we allowed the text to lead us. We started in the scripture, then followed the tone of Paul's words by pausing to worship Jesus for his glorious gift of grace. We prayed Paul's words over our YAs and stopped to discuss the challenges of maintaining unity. We have deeply enjoyed gathering as a YA community and exploring different ways to experience God together.

Ashlee Jackson | Online & Young Adults Pastor

# HELPING HAND INGLE FARM CHURCH SERVICE

Our weekly Aged Care Service to the residents of the Memory Support Unit at Helping Hand Ingle Farm started at the beginning of this year. This is a weekly service in collaboration with Clovie and Helping Hand Staff with an innovative approach to connecting residents who have dementia to God. Feedback from staff and families has been positive with many residents being calm for the rest of the day and triggering past memories of worshiping God and connecting with God.

Nathan McDuff | Pastoral Care Pastor



#### **CLOVIE GAWLER CAMPUS**

Through our new Clovie Gawler campus, we are achieving our vision of 'one church, many campuses.' This year brought significant changes in governance, transitioning from Gawler Baptist to officially becoming Clovie Gawler. The transformation involved dedicated efforts behind the scenes, led by Cherise, the boards at Clovercrest Modbury, and Gawler. Gratitude extends to the Gawler Baptist board members—Luke Ravesteyn, Judi Carpenter, Mark Petrusma, Shamiah Tiller, Paul Harris, and Ali Chapman—for their service.

Through this process, a Gawler Ministry Team has emerged, comprising leaders with a focused mission for 2024. Governance responsibilities have shifted to the board at Clovie Modbury, reflecting our commitment to effective ministry in Gawler.

**Jason Lippitt | Clovie Gawler Campus Pastor** 





#### LIFE GROUP GROWTH

This year, God has taken our life group on a journey of GROWth. Our theme of GROW (Gratitude, Renewal, Obedience and Wisdom) helped us to reflect on growing our spiritual roots to stand strong when faced with the storms of life. We encouraged each other, and all grew in our faith, participation and connection. As a leader, I am so grateful for this beautiful group of ladies, who are always there to support and pray for one another. In 2024, we seek to continue the journey to grow deeper; be fed by His Word; pruned and shaped by the Spirit and watered and nurtured by His love.

Mel Walladge | Leader for Prayer

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# 2023: INNOVATE Daring to Dream

#### **CLOVIE GAWLER PASSOVER MEAL**

We joined in the Passover Seder during Easter, hosted by our church community at a local Gawler café. People invited their friends and family to partake in this traditional Jewish celebration, but with a central emphasis on Jesus. It was an enjoyable and meaningful gathering, allowing us to share the significance of Jesus as the Passover lamb while enjoying the meal together.

#### **Jason Lippitt | Clovie Gawler Campus Pastor**

"Gathering at Café Nova for the Passover Meal hosted by Clovie Gawler during Easter was truly special. About 50 of us came together, creating a strong sense of togetherness. We explored the traditional elements of the Jewish Passover meal and discovered how they all pointed to Jesus as the ultimate fulfillment of that tradition.

The evening was beautifully structured. We read from the Bible and had discussions that showed how each part of the Passover meal connected to Jesus' sacrifice for us. It wasn't just a meal; it was a deep dive into the spiritual connections between ancient teachings and the core of Christianity.

This event was more than just a get-together; it was a time of understanding and unity. We left with a stronger grasp of the significance of Jesus in our faith, feeling more connected to the heart of Easter and the message of redemption it brings."

**Ang Lippitt | Clovie Gawler Member** 





#### **FAMILY AND KIDS COACH**

In 2023, we were successful in gaining a grant from Baptist Care to expand from Kids COACH into Family COACH. This year, we were able to welcome Julianne McDuff as Family COACH coordinator and together we have trained 9 new Family COACH Mentors. 5 of those trained are ready to be matched with someone from our community who is doing life tough. Like Kids COACH, Family COACH works to be a friend with purpose, to walk alongside someone doing life tough, build relationships with them, set goals and help them flourish into all God has for them. We look forward to more stories of God at work as these relationships grow.

Kids COACH continues to be a shining light into our local school at The Heights. Currently, we have 9 Mentors serving in the local school.

Our Kids COACH Coordinator Bev Poppleton continues to hear wonderful stories from parents or participants like "She does not want to miss being with her mentor," "It is their highlight of the week. "He loves it", "We are so grateful for the mentor our child has".

Our mentors love to find ways to remind their child that they matter to them, and they are valued. One participant told her mentor she loves highlander cows. When our Mentor found a soft toy version of a cow highlander, she could not resist purchasing it. The joy on her face when she opened this special gift was priceless. This generous thought showed her that they listened, that she mattered to them and that they were interested in getting to know her. Many of these children come from broken homes and life is not easy. We are so thankful for all our mentors in the way they turn up each week for one hour to bless these children. It is making a life-changing impact.

We continue to hear stories of when people have graduated from COACH with opportunities for continued connection. One participant graduated in 2022 and her mum reached out to her mentor and mentioned that her child was doing a special meal at school, and she could invite 1 special significant other and she wanted her Mentor to attend. The power of investing in 1hr can make a lifelong impact.

We are excited to see where our COACH Program is going. We are also excited to partner with Clovie Gawler in helping them start Kids COACH in Evanston Gardens Primary School. In Term 4 we trained 2 potential mentors from Clovie Gawler.

**Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor** 





2023 has been an amazing year for our Cherish ministry's growth and nurturing! Our belief in an inclusive Kingdom remains strong. We're committed to ensuring that everyone can engage with faith, tailored to their unique situations.

Presently, 16 families actively participate, and we're deeply grateful for the dedication of 7 buddies offering personalized support to Cherish children. This year, Caitilyn Pywell and I had the honor of visiting Adelaide Lai Christian Church and Austral Asian Community Church, training their Kids Ministry leaders in implementing our Cherish Program. Moreover, at the Baptist Churches' Kids Ministry Gathering, I shared insights on initiating additional needs ministries, sparking crucial conversations.

"We never get to go out; this is truly a gift" June brought a highlight with our inaugural Cherish Respite Night. Eight families entrusted us with their children for two joyous hours while they enjoyed much-needed

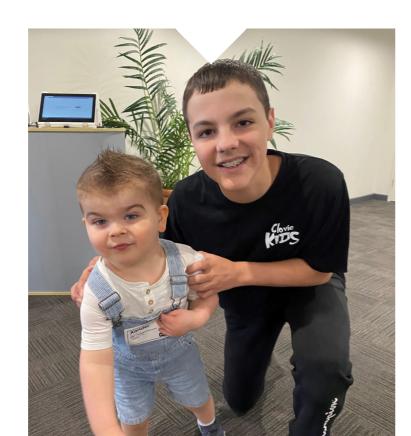
quality time. The heartfelt feedback, particularly a mother's comment, "We never get to go out; this is truly a gift," touched us deeply.

Reflecting on this incredible year, the Cherish ministry's impact reaffirms our commitment to inclusive, tailored engagement within our church and the wider community. These experiences inspire us to continue nurturing meaningful connections and support for all.

Ann Hughes | Children & Families Pastor

"Cherish has been such a blessing to our family. We would find ourselves anxious to take Xander to kids' church, as we too were still trying to understand his diagnosis of Global Developmental Delay. We assumed he would be put into the 'Too Hard' box, which broke our hearts. We were so wrong. Ann and the team have gone out of their way to learn more about Xander and us as a family. They have put together a box of all his favourite things to help him settle into the space, allowing him to participate in kids' church and join in with all the other kids, learning about how much God loves him and how special he is. The 1:1 carer relationship with Caleb has given Xander a constant friend in the room as well as support to communicate and feel safe. It warms our hearts to see him sprint into church every time looking for Caleb. Josh and I feel extremely blessed to have this support and to be able to enjoy church ourselves knowing that our little boy is also learning about God in a safe space."

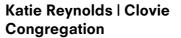
#### Renae & Josh | Clovie Congregation





#### CHERISH RESPITE NIGHT

"I attend a loving church. Tonight the church has put on a respite night for families of children with disabilities. They have fun activities and food planned for the children. In typical Katie fashion, I didn't read that Moses and Malachi can come as well but I will definitely drop them off next time. Clovie truly shows the love of God as Lilly is also supported by her volunteer workers on Sundays providing her with 1:1 support."













#### **CLOVIE GAWLER CHRISTMAS PARADE**

After a 40-year hiatus, the Gawler Christmas Parade made an exciting return! This local community event brought together the town and its surrounding areas to celebrate Christmas by parading up and down the main street. Clovie Gawler eagerly seized the chance to organize a float for the parade, aiming to infuse the essence of Jesus into the heart of Christmas and the Gawler community.

People of all ages from Clovie Gawler enthusiastically participated, aligning with a theme centred around the wise men following the guiding star. It presented a wonderful opportunity to engage in something enjoyable while spreading the joyous message of Jesus throughout Gawler. Our banner proudly displayed the message 'be wise and follow the star' - emphasizing Jesus as the guiding Light of the World!

#### **Jason Lippitt | Clovie Gawler Campus Pastor**



#### **INCREASING OUR REACH** INTO THE COMMUNITY

- Twenty one 5-Star reviews on Google.
- 17 work experience students.
- More than 30 meals provided to those experiencing homelessness or food insecurity.
- Over 100 "Little book of Help" biblical encouragement booklets handed out.
- Sales up by 31% on 2022.

This year we have seen Quench grow noticeably with more customers coming through each week and Saturday party hires. We have also seen seventeen students experience meaningful work experience here at Quench with two returning to continue volunteering because they feel welcomed and enjoy being a part of the community.

With that activity, not only have we seen our sales and revenue increase but also our introductions to church activities and conversations about Jesus have as well. One encouraging story was that of one customer who took a "Little book of Help" from our counter. We didn't know at the time that this person was going through a really hard and dark time. We later received feedback that the words in this book were just what they needed and referred to it as a "life saver". Over one hundred of these books have been taken from our counter this year and our prayer is that people will find encouragement and hope through God's words in them.

Phil Davids | Leader of Quench Cafe

#### **GOD USES DIGITAL PATHWAYS**

This year, we have started to film Online-specific announcements that play directly to our Online community during Sunday services. One week I shared about baptisms, with an invitation to those who are not yet baptised to explore this next step. One gentleman in our Modbury North congregation was away on holidays and watching Online. God's Spirit spoke to him through the announcement, and he was prompted to take the next step! After connecting with our pastoral team, he went through the waters of baptism in September. God is using digital pathways to keep drawing people to Himself and leading us towards growth.

Ashlee Jackson | Online & Young Adults Pastor













#### **PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES**

It has been a privilege to partner with parents for another year in discipling their children. We want to support families by resourcing them with simple ways to continue having faith conversations at home, so in Term 4 we launched a new way of accessing our Big Ideas from Clovie Kids. Families receive a text message with a link to our website which has a little video or article that we hope families will use throughout the week.

Ann Hughes | Families & Children's Pastor



In Term 4, we launched our "Family Focus Hub" at <a href="clovie.com.au/family">clovie.com.au/family</a> to equip and empower parents and families through all phases of parenting. While our kids grow and change, so does the way we parent. We have wanted to let our community know of some great parenting resources we have from preschool to parenting a young adult. We hope to continue to add to our library with new books, that you are welcome to borrow. We will also post podcasts, blogs and articles that we hope will bless families, especially on some of those "Hot topics".

We want all our kids, youth and YAs to experience an authentic faith. "The truth is growth requires change. And part of developing a grown-up faith is allowing what you've always believed to be shaped, changed, or experienced in a new way. The goal isn't for them to live out the beliefs given to them, but to develop an authentic faith of their own."

Steven Argue / Kara Powel

Ann Hughes | Families & Children's Pastor



# YOUNG ADULTS CONFERENCE

Our Young Adult ministry pivoted to a conference rather than a camp in 2023. We gathered across a weekend in September, with a focus on 'Faith that Lasts'. We celebrated 2 re-commitments, 2 people interested in membership, and 2 people interested in serving. We also celebrated generational investment – members of senior-aged Life Groups put together our morning and afternoon tea! Here is what one YA reflected:

"God reminded me that He has me in this season of life for a purpose and I need to continue pressing towards Him and live a life of passion for Him. He also reminded me that I have this amazing community of people around me that I can lean into and ask deep questions about God and also just have fun and build relationships. It was a great time to stop and just enjoy each other's company and know that God designed us to live in community with Him."

Amelia Albu | YA

Ashlee Jackson | Online & Young Adults Pastor

RECOMMIT-MENTS

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP

2
INTERESTED
IN SERVING





# CLOVERCREST BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCIALS

**Average Weekly Offering:** 

\$18,375

1% increase from 2022

**Total Giving:** 

\$955,503

Other Income:

\$532,455

Total Operating Revenue: \$1,545,957\*



**Giving Total:** 

\$142,562

Home:

BWA:

\$40,042

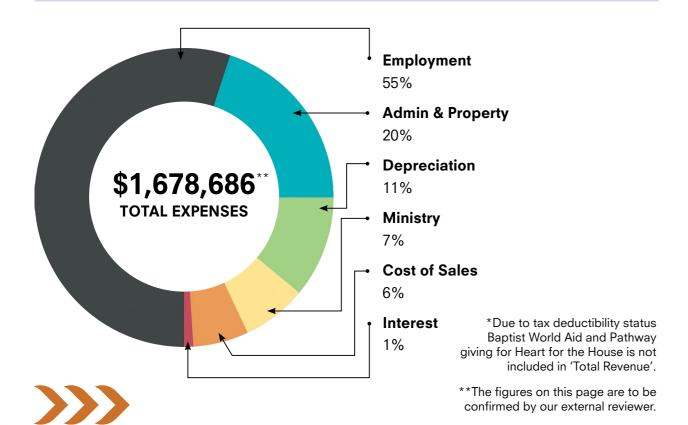
\$26,201

Backyard:

Missions:

\$64,200

\$12,119







#### Clovercrest Baptist Church

#### **Church Office**

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