

## 2023/24 AGM

Thanking God for the year gone by and praying together about what God has in store for us ahead.

# TRINITY CHURCH

## Loving God Loving People Making Disciples in Adelaide's North

Dear church family, I'm thrilled that you have joined us today to give thanks for all that we have seen God do among us over the last year and to pray for what he will do in the coming year.

When we planted eight years ago, we did so because we longed for more people in the north of Adelaide to know and love Jesus. This mission hasn't changed and I hope that today will give you clarity on where we are going and how, under God, we can see more and more people find joy, forgiveness and hope in Jesus.



# **Looking Back**

#### Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever! Psalm 107:1

There's so much to be thankful for as we reflect on the past year. Think back to our mission event of Lawn Bowls that brought together our non-Christian friends with others in the Christian community. We had a fantastic turnout, and we're definitely planning to do it again in 2024. Recently, we had a church picnic, which was another wonderful opportunity to connect with one another. Hope Explored saw 22 people, all at

different stages of faith, come and explore the Hope, Peace and Purpose Jesus offers.

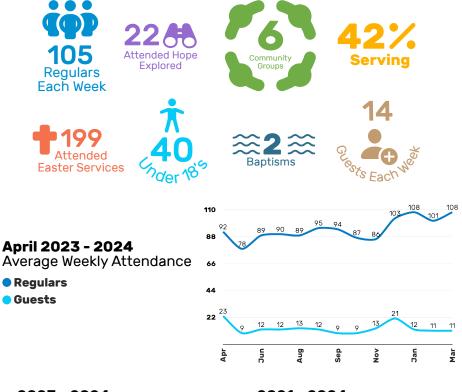
I'm incredibly grateful to God for allowing us to expand our staff team this year by welcoming Michael as our Associate Pastor. It's been a joy serving alongside Carola, Meredith, and Michael, witnessing how God is working in their lives and through their service of Jesus and his people. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in resourcing our church, enabling us to enhance our ministry.

Our Bible talks have covered a lot of ground - Acts, the Gospel of Mark, Colossians, Genesis (which we plan to revisit mid-year) and some aspects of God's character - even delving into what the Bible says about sleep. Opening the Bible and explaining how it all points to Jesus and the hope of where life is going is a weekly joy and something we value highly.

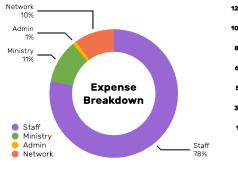
With the increase in newcomers we've been hosting more OnBoard sessions, seeing more people connecting with each other on a Sunday and mid-week, in Community Groups, and becoming part of our church family. Behind each of the numbers is a person, precious to God, whom we desire to see embrace Jesus and mature in their faith. Additionally, we've experienced our highest increase in newborns! Please continue to keep the parents and children of our church in your prayers. I love observing parents connecting before and after our gatherings, supporting one another.

Thank you for being an amazing church to pastor. It's truly a privilege to witness God's work in each of you and I count it a joy to serve you all

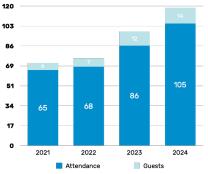
## Snapshot



2023 - 2024 Expenses



2021 - 2024 Average Weekly Attendance



## **Finances**

Thank you for your generosity and partnership in the gospel. We give to church because we stand amazed at God's gift to us in his Son and we want others to know his gift, too.

With changes to interest rates and the increase in living costs it has become a tighter financial environment for many of us, yet we continue to see your generosity towards God's kingdom and it's a great cause for thanks.

Our monthly expenses are **\$18,000**. We are currently sitting just below meeting our expense with around **\$16,000** per month being received.

To help us keep doing great ministry, we value your partnership in prayer, service, time, and with your finances. In all things, our motivation should be an overflow from God's generosity to us as seen most perfectly in Jesus (1 Corinthians 16:1–2 and 2 Corinthians 9:7).

Giving details are on our website and any physical donations can be placed in the partnership box at the back of the chapel.

# **Looking Forward**



**Care Ministry:** Real community can be difficult for many of us, for lots of reasons. As we continue to see more people gather with us, there can be a sense of loss that comes when we can't quite see everyone we once did on a Sunday. As much as it's different, it also means that more people are can be connected to one another.

One way that we have been exploring how to keep loving and caring for one another is by bringing clarity to our care model to be as helpful as we can and to identity any gaps that we can work on. You'll see our current progress in the diagram on the next page along with a description of what care in our church looks like and what we are aiming to achieve. This is a working document, and we are pleased to share it you at the AGM.

All pastoral care begins with Jesus. We recognise that Jesus is the chief shepherd of his people and that he is the one to give pastoral

care, leading us towards life and hope though the gospel.

Our desire to care for someone springs from our own response to the gospel as we encourage others and lead them towards Jesus, too.

We have three typical care structures which are about the whole body of Jesus working together to 'one another' in a variety of settings. Regular attendance at our Sunday gathering and a Community Group are two ways we encourage all people to care and be cared for.

We also recognise that extra care is needed from time to time: extended sickness, grief and loss, emergencies, mental health challenges, some circumstances mean our usual ways of seeking to pastorally care are rendered ineffective, etc. In those instances our regular care structure of Community Groups's, one another and staff may need extra support. We also encourage professional care for our well-being as well.



**Every Person, Every Opportunity to Meet Jesus:** Through our Sunday gatherings as we hear about what God's up to among each other, building mission heat at our care and connect events, to the Hope Explore and Life course, to helping us all share our faith, this year we want to give Every Person, Every Opportunity, To Meet Jesus.

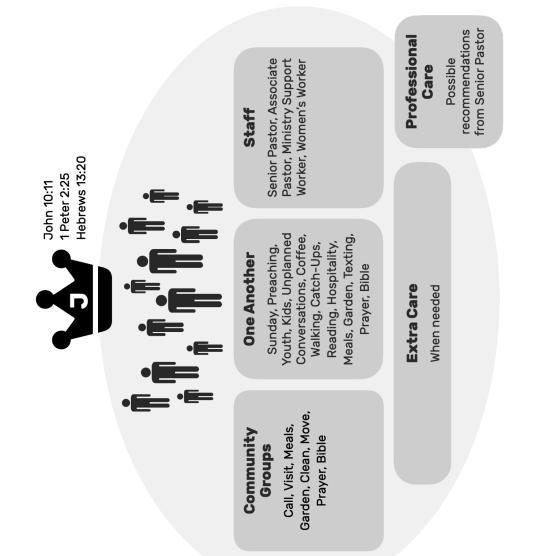
We'd love each one of us to pray for our family and friends, to invite someone to something this year, to look for moments to share our faith and to encourage one another with what God's up to.

Look out for a wine tasting evening in Spring, get ready to ask the Big Question and join in with the other Northern Trinity churches for our combined Sunday as we keep building mission heat.



**Regular, God Given Inputs:** As we keep being flexible, adjusting and changing, some things will always stay the same – meeting each week to open the Bible and show how it connects with our life. Teaching our kids about Jesus, meeting to sing, pray and gather as God's people to point each other to Jesus and the hope of a renewed creation. These are so simple, but profoundly important to a healthy spiritual life. As the year get's on our Bible talks will take us into Genesis 1-12 and Isaiah, we will read a book together as a church, hear stories of people connecting with others and hear from our mission partners, too.

## **Draft Care Model**



## Reports Trinity Kids Michael Steemson

We give thanks for a smooth transition from Amanda to Michael in leading the Kids Ministry area, and for the support of the whole volunteer team who enabled this smooth transition.

We've started using materials from the Gospel Project for the past 3 months in Trinity Kids, and we've seen both the kids and leaders become more familiar with the format. In particular, the past month where we have chronologically followed on the Easter narrative has been a real blessing in showing the kids how they can be sure that Jesus is alive. Moving forward, we are excited to continue using the Gospel Project curriculum to learn about the New Testament church and how Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit and how he wants us to tell others about him.

At the beginning of April, we launched the preschoolers program. Whilst still very much in its early stages, one of the early fruits of the program has been witnessing parents and their children singing, playing, and praying together as families.

Looking forward, we would love to expand the size of our volunteer team so that we are able to provide a Sunday morning ministry for the youth in our congregation.

#### Membership & Ministry Carola Bradford

Over the past year, my journey overseeing the serving and membership areas for our church has been fulfilling, witnessing growth, and heartening transformations within our village of people. As I reflect on this time, I'm thankful for the positive changes I have seen.

One of the most gratifying aspects has been witnessing the blossoming of our serving teams. We've seen a surge in volunteers eager to lend their hands and hearts to our church's mission of loving one another. We have 42% of our congregation actively serving at our church right now, which is a rich blessing from God. This increased energy and commitment has strengthened our ministries but has also woven a tighter fabric of community among our members.

Our church family has expanded in beautiful ways – especially in the young family demographic! Welcoming new faces and embracing more culturally diverse perspectives has enriched our community. It's been a real joy to witness individuals finding belonging and purpose within our congregation.

I'm humbled by the privilege of being part of this vibrant community and excited for the journey ahead. Thank you for your patience and grace, your willingness to give my suggestions a try, and being a good gaggle of people I love doing life with.

#### Women Mereclith Lockery

It has been encouraging to see the growth in the number of women in our Trinity Church Golden Grove community this year. With this growth and changes in the circumstances of women assisting me with pastoral care, it has been necessary to rethink how formal pastoral care happens at Grove. I raised the issue of pastoral care with the Leadership Team and they have been working on producing some guidelines on pastoral care for all the community. There have been ongoing opportunities for the women in our community to meet for coffee, walk together, fellowship in the Book Club, and meet weekly in small groups. As a community, we are blessed by the women in the congregation who reach out to others through these activities.

I regularly catch up with women who have been unable to get to church or are going through a hard time, to encourage them in their walk with the Lord. I am on the organising team of the Northern Trinity Network Playgroup where I can share the lives of caregivers and their children each week. I continue to work with Luke, our Senior Pastor, and Carola, our Ministry Support Worker, to identify women who need extra care. I also lead a women's small group which meets at a café before church on Sundays, oversee a meal roster for families and individuals when needed. and am the contact person for Grace Conference.

It is a privilege to walk beside the women of the congregation as we encourage each other to love and serve the Lord.

#### Leadership Team Peter Lockery

The team currently consists of 5 members plus the Senior Pastor, Luke Dahlenburg. Dameon Roy and Jess Trollope are Senior Pastor appointments with no fixed term; Lyn Davis and myself are congregational appointments with a 2-year term. Tim Rogers is an team appointment for whatever period the team determines. I was elected by the team to act as chair after the AGM in 2023. The LT of a Trinity Network church is charged with the responsibility for the oversight of the decisions and affairs of the church community.

**Ministry:** The Senior Pastor has overall direction and responsibility for the ministry of the Church Community, in consultation with the other members of the team. See Luke Dahlenburg's report.

**Staff:** Carola Bradford's role as Ministry Support Worker was reviewed and is now employed permanent part time. Amanda Young stepped down from her role as Kids Ministry Worker in Term 4 2023 and Michael Steemson was appointed as a 0.3FTE Associate Pastor responsible for Kid's and family ministry. Meredith Lockery has also been appointed as a volunteer Women's Support Worker with a specific focus on the pastoral care of women at Trinity. The members of the team are very thankful to God the the quality of our staff team who are all mature, godly people who serve us all well. The team also want to express their specific thankfulness to Amanda Young who has worked tirelessly for many years in our kid's ministry and overseen significant growth.

**Property:** The initial rental agreement with Pedare Christian College expires at the end of December 2024. The contract allows, with the agreement of both parties, for a further extension of 5 years. The team will begin consulting with Pedare regarding this extension in June 2024. Pedare is undergoing significant building which has removed the top car park and made entry into the auditorium more hazardous for those with extra needs and families with prams. As a result, the rear carpark has now been opened to provide safe access and in the next few weeks we will cease using the front carpark entirely.

Occupational Health and Safety: While the LT is legally an independent incorporated body, it enjoys the support of the Trinity Network Board and staff in all matters relating to Child Safety, Payroll, Property matters, insurance etc. This relieves the members of the team from having to cover all these matters (which would be considerable) independently. I want to express my thanks to the other members of the team who are all keen, under God's grace, to see Trinity grow and mature in Christ both in outreach to the community and love and care for one another.



How the Leadership Team & Staff Team fit together: If you imagine our church as a rescue ship, it's the role of the Leadership Team to make sure it is licensed, safe, has fuel in the tank and, with the Senior Pastor help steer the ship in the right direction. Once the Leadership Team and Senior Pastor have set the direction, it is the role of our teams and volunteers to shepherd the ship toward its destination.

#### TRINITY NETWORK

Our church is part of the Trinity Network of 14 churches across Adelaide. We work together in regions (North, South, West, Hills and Central) in response to God's grace, to see one another making and maturing disciples for the glory of God. The Network helps resource each church to do better ministry through church health, planting, admin, leadership development, partnerships, HR, governance, risk, logistics and heaps more.

## Prayer

Give thanks for the dedicated volunteers serving and families who have joined our church. Please pray that we would keep providing helpful and Christ centred teaching to our children.

# 

Give thanks for how God is using community groups to mature his people. Please pray that strong communities would form between people and a deep love for God's word would grow.



Give thanks for the curiosity of people to explore the Christian faith. Please pray that the sessions would be clear and helpful.

### TRINITY PRAYER

Give thanks for the times of prayer we have each month. Please pray that God would hear and answer our prayers, for his glory and our good and that we would be a prayerful church.

## TRINITY PLAYGROUP

Give thanks for the mums and children making connections each week. Please pray that God would use playgroup to build great connections into his church, through the families.



Give thanks for the youth across our northern churches. Please pray our youth would build solid relationships with each other and Jesus.

## TRINITY CHURCH

Give thanks for church community and for the relationships, growth, joy and community that has been forming. Please pray for all those serving on teams and the staff that they would remain passionate, that God would encourage them in their love of Jesus. Please pray that each of us would daily read and open the Bible for the joy of talking to God and knowing him more. Please pray that many more people will hear about Jesus as they gather with us and be saved.



Give thanks that there is a curiosity and hunger to know more about Jesus and read the Bible. Thank God for all those who attended Hope Explored and helped to make each week happen. Please pray that God would continue to show himself to those who attended and that Jesus would soon become their Lord and Saviour.



Give thanks for the many newcomers we have had this year and for the friendship being made. Please pray that God would help us all to welcome people well to our church, that we would see people commit to his church and grow deeper as disciples.

# Mission Partners

Give thanks for our mission partners: BCA, CMS, BCSA, AFES, CBF and pray for the people serving in these places -especially for gospel fruit, maturity and Godly relationships along with our new mission partners with BCA - the Woods.



Give thanks for the 14 churches in the Network. Please pray for Paul, Ben and Andrew for Godly wisdom in their roles.

# **Thank You!**

We'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you for joining us today. We hope that you're excited for what God can do through his church, for his glory, to see more people know Jesus, built up to become followers of him, ready to share his kindness.

- Is there something from today that you'd like to know more about? Do ask anyone on the Leadership Team.
- Would you like to get more involved? Chat with Carola.
- Perhaps you'd just like a cup of coffee and some prayer? Speak with Luke.
- Or, why not consider one of the next steps below?

Invite someone over / out for lunch.

Read How To Talk About Jesus By Sam Chan.

Show generosity by serving and giving.

When you arrive at church ask the Welcome Team if there's anyone new you can sit next to and welcome.

Use a Bible reading plan each day. E.g - M'Cheyne Reading Plan.

Browse the City Bible Forum website and pray about work conversations and colleagues.

Pray for our church each week.

# AGM Agenda

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Attendance & apologies
- 3. Appoint minute taker / note quorum
- 4. Vote to accept last year's minutes
- 5. Leadership Team elections
- 6. Trinity Network & finance update
- 7. Pastor & Ministry updates
- 8. Questions
- 9. Prayer

AGM Chair: Peter Lockery

Holy Trinity Board Representative: Andrew Severin

