

2022 VISION

The Light On The Hill



St George's
Anglican Church

BATTERY POINT



Our Mission

We exist to see people **Drawn** to the Light of Christ

Transformed by the Light of Christ

and **Sent** out to Shine the Light of Christ

Our Context

A people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light. Battery Point is a village in the city. It's a place of transition. We always have new people joining us and others leaving. We're situated in an affluent suburb with academics, public servants, politicians and business people all close by. The biggest demographics in our area are ages 20-35, mainly uni students and young professionals, and 55-69, generally wealthy baby boomers who are retiring. Battery Point can seem close to paradise. But dip below the surface and, like elsewhere, people live in darkness: relationship breakdown, loneliness, anxiety, a loss of meaning and purpose. We want to be a village church for the city. Since 1838, St George's has stood over Battery Point and Hobart as a beacon of hope.

Our Vision

St George's is a place of beauty that always attracts visitors. The city knows our church building as the Light on the Hill. We want our church family to be known for our generous welcome and deep love for others, just like God loves and welcomes us in Christ. We long to be a place where people find life and hope and peace as they encounter Christ, and where lives are transformed by the light of his truth, through the power of the Holy Spirit. As God does this, he sends us out to shine the light of Christ. We want to bless our neighbours and our city through our generous service and our gracious witness as public disciples of Christ to the glory of God.

Our Values

- Jesus is at the centre of who we are and what we do (Hebrews 12.1-3).
- Our life is shaped by Scripture (Matthew 4.4, 1 Timothy 3.16-17).
- We love each other and our neighbours deeply (John 13.34-35, Romans 15.7, Matthew 22.37-40).
- We delight in unity in diversity where all are welcomed and every member of the body plays their part (1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4.1-16).
- We expect the Holy Spirit to be transforming us (2 Corinthians 3.18, Romans 8.29).
- We value our heritage (1 Corinthians 3.5-9).
- We appreciate beauty (Exodus 35.30-36.1).
- We're marked by generosity. (2 Corinthians 9.6-11).
- Undergirded by prayer because God can do more than we can ask or imagine (Matthew 10.2, Ephesians 3.20-21).

Our Strategy - Snapshot

DRAWN

St George's Church building stands as a beacon drawing people in.

Jesus said,

"Everyone will know you are my disciples if you love one another" (John 13.25).

People who are drawn to the building will stay as they experience the love of Christ through our generous welcome, hospitality and love. This means our primary strategy to draw people to the light of Christ will be two fold: our building and our welcome.

- Key Strategy: Generous Welcome
- The Big 5 - Pancake Tuesday, Easter, Henry Baldwin Lecture, Mariners, Christmas
- Pastoral Care

TRANSFORMED

In Christ God welcomes us as we are, but he loves us too much to leave us where we are. We look for God to transform us by his Holy Spirit through the following means of grace:

- Corporate Worship
- Personal prayer and Bible Reading
- Bible Study Groups
- Serving in Ministry
- Giving Generously
- Gracious Witness

Key Strategies:

- Making Sunday a Highlight of the Week
- Alpha (or equivalent) x2 per year - after Easter (Term 2) and Mariners (Term 4)
- Bible Study Groups
- Kids Church
- Supported by One to One Mentoring

SENT

Given our high turnover of people, St George's will always be a sending church.

We want people to be captured by God's vision for them to shine with the light of Christ, to grow spiritually and be equipped to serve while they are with us so that they can be a blessing in the churches, communities and workplaces to which they go.

Key Strategies

- Learning to be Public Disciples
- Serving with the gifts God has given
- Cultivating Gospel Partnerships

PRAYER

This vision is beyond what we can do. But God can do more than we ask or imagine. So we will be people of prayer.

Our Strategy

DRAWN

St George's Church building stands as a beacon drawing people in. We want to grow because we want to see more people encounter God's love in Christ and be sent out to shine his light. We have a high turnover of people - about 20% each year. That means we're always welcoming new people, whoever they are, wherever they come from, and we're always sending people.

To grow numerically by 10 % in a year we need to welcome three times that number. That means we should always expect to be welcoming new people. If we grow by 10%pa, by the end of 2023 we can expect to be 73 adults and 32 kids. To grow to 100 adults by Christmas 2023 we would need to grow by 20%pa or approximately 1 new person who stays every fortnight.

Jesus said, "Everyone will know you are my disciples if you love one another" (John 13.25). People who are drawn to the building will stay as they experience the love of Christ through our generous welcome, hospitality and love. This means our primary strategy to draw people to the light of Christ will be two fold: our building and our welcome.

Building

Warm, welcoming and uncluttered facilities

- Restoration and Renewal project
- Through this project we hope to not only restore the church but to also renew the whole site so that it can serve the vision of the church by

(1) drawing people to St George's through the beauty of the site and (2) facilitating the ministry of the church.

- Community users
- Our site is used by many different groups. We want our buildings to be a blessing to our community. We also want to shine the light of Christ in our relationships with those who use our buildings.

Website that provides

- Online front door
- Crisp, engaging, easy to navigate
- Showcases the best of St George's
- Online sermons
- Integrated with restoration project and physical entrance of the church.
- Integrated with our newsletters on Sunday

People

"By this everyone will know you that are my disciples if you have love for one another"
John 13,35

As we enjoy spending time together as a church family, we'll want to invite others to join us. As we welcome newcomers and build friendships with them, they will want to stay.

Key Strategy: Generous Welcome

- Monthly Church lunches - 4th Sunday of the month
 - Even months Newcomers
 - Odd months Whole Church Family
- Seniors Lunches - 1st Sunday of the Month
- Personal hospitality - within one week of their first Sunday.
- Both clergy and lay people have to take initiative.

We need to grow in our welcoming culture as a church.

A rough guide to Welcoming

- Notice the new person
- Say hello and introduce yourself
- Ask a little of their story
- Introduce the new person to others from church who have some point of similar interest - eg. same work, same hobby, kids the same age, from the same place etc.
- Know what activities St George's offers that might be good to invite the new person to especially
 - Church Family Lunch / Newcomer's Lunch
 - Alpha
 - Bible Study Group
- Ask the person's contact details if you feel this is appropriate
- Call the person within 36 hours of them coming to church to say "hello, thank you for coming, we'd love to get to know you, how can we pray for you, would you like to meet for coffee/afternoon tea?"

- 2nd Sunday - introduce to other people at church
 - Invite to a second social event
 - 3rd Sunday - invite to Alpha or Small Group
 - 4th Sunday - ask Ministers or Wardens how can this person serve at St George's. Then invite person to serve alongside an established member of the church, in a way that connects their gifts and passions with the needs of the church.
-
- Eg. Morning Tea, Welcoming, Music, Bible Reading, Flowers, Cleaning, Counting, Gardening, Website, Pastoral Care, new initiatives

The Big 5

- Pancakes
- Easter
- Henry Baldwin Lecture during Dark Mofo
- Mariners
- Christmas

These are our 5 main public events for the year. We will invite Battery Point and others to join us.

We will look to make relationships with new people at these events.

We will have a clear next step for those who are spiritually hungry to take - e.g. Alpha.

Pastoral Care

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God"
2 Corinthians 1.3-4

As we learn to see and care for new people we also need to care for each other.

- Regular (monthly or bi-monthly) meeting of those doing pastoral care for prayer, mutual support and encouragement. Lay Chair. Clergy present.
- Bible Study groups as a key place for care and support
- Pastoral care is the responsibility of the whole body of Christ, not just the clergy - we are called to love one another.

Pastoral care is ultimately sharing with others the comfort that we have received from God. As we receive care, we care for others. It means loving our friends, neighbours, sisters and brothers in the church. Concretely pastoral care involves being sensitive to the needs of others, asking how people are going, noticing when they are absent, giving a phone call or a visit, listening, sharing the comfort of God from the Scriptures, and praying. Each of us can do some or all of these things.

Welcome, The Big 5 and Pastoral Care will be supported by

- Playgroup
- Scripture Club
- Tinkering Time
- Election Day Fair
- Floodlight appeal
- Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals

TRANSFORMED

In Christ God welcomes us as we are, but he loves us too much to leave us where we are. We look for God to transform us by his Holy Spirit through the following means of grace:

- Corporate Worship
- Personal prayer and Bible Reading
- Bible Study Groups
- Serving in Ministry
- Giving Generously
- Gracious Witness

The phrase “means of grace” comes from the prayer of general thanksgiving in the Book of Common Prayer:

“We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessing of this life; but above all, for your amazing love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory”

The “means of grace” refers to God-given instruments through which he works by his Holy Spirit to pour out his grace upon us, changing us to be more like Jesus.

Key Strategy: Making Sunday a Highlight of the Week

“They will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, „ÀòGod is really among you!”
1 Cor 14.25

We want church on Sunday to be a time of joy, rest, renewal and transformation as people encounter God through worship, Word, sacrament, prayer and fellowship. If we love being at church on Sunday, then we’ll want to invite others and newcomers will enjoy

it too. We expect we will always have newcomers, so while our services will be aimed at growing Christians, they will also be accessible for newcomers and will always have a sense of an invitation to stay and find out more.

- Warm Welcome
- Liturgy as an Experience of God
 - framed in the rich heritage of classical orthodox Anglicanism
 - Music that celebrates our diversity and leads us to worship
 - Preaching that is biblical, engaging, practical, accessible and clear, which engages the heart and equips us to understand and respond with the gospel to our culture
 - The Sacraments as a means of grace through which we encounter God's love for us
- An expectation that the Holy Spirit will be at work
 - through regularly hearing stories of what God has been doing, and through the ministry of the Word and Sacrament
- 8am - Reflective service. 8-9am sharp. Holy Communion. A growing culture of care for each other.
- 10am - Flagship Service.
- Great Kids Church - the kids love being there, make friends, grow spiritually and are a valued part of the church family.
- Great relationships built over Morning Tea afterwards

Key Growth Areas

Music

Aim: To facilitate an awareness of the glory of God and quicken the desire in each of us to express love to our God, to be refreshed in spirit, by the Holy Spirit, before going out to meet all that the rest of the day and week should bring.

Vision:

- That music be an expression of our values of unity in diversity and the appreciation of beauty through the best of the old and new and through incorporating more instrumentalists including: Piano and Organ, Strings, Bass, Brass, Percussion, Guitar.
- That St George's be a place where musicians from the Conservatorium and the concerts we host will find a spiritual home and offer their gifts in leading us in worship.

Accessible Aids to Worship

- Streamline what each person needs for the service (currently a service card, newsletter, hymn book and Bible)
- Install aesthetically sympathetic AV system
- Make church accessible for hearing impaired

We can expect 2 kinds of newcomers. (1) Christians who are transferring churches, either locally or through having moved. (2) Unbelievers who are seeking. The Next Step after we welcome people on a Sunday and invite them to a meal or afternoon tea is to invite them to a Bible Study Group or Alpha within 3 weeks of their first Sunday.

Key Strategy: Alpha (or equivalent) x2 per year - after Easter (Term 2) and Mariners (Term 4)

- Run in someone's home.
- 2 key people/families from church + newcomers
- Next step - join a Bible study / form a new Bible study

Key Strategy: Bible Study Groups

Key elements

- Building relationships
- Reading and discussing a passage of Scripture
- A commitment to apply Scripture each week and an expectation of change and growth - Always ask: What is one thing that you will do this week in response to what we've studied?
- Praying for each other and church
- A vehicle for training

Key Strategy: Kids Church

- First 10 minutes of Church focussed on Families and Kids
- **Sparkle** (2-6 year olds).
Aim: For kids to be introduced to God, become socialised to church and enjoy church
- **Neon** (6-12 year olds).
Aim: For kids to start reading the Bible for themselves, learning to ask questions and grow in personal relationship with Christ. To build friendships. To enjoy church.

- **Teens** (13-16).
Aim: For teens to ask questions about God, understand the key aspects of the gospel, to own following Christ for themselves and despite their peers. To build key friendships to encourage each other in persevering.
- Kids Church leaders - growing in personal spiritual life, learning how to teach and disciple children, partnering with parents to disciple their kids.

Supported by

One to One Mentoring

"The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others"
2 Timothy 2.2

- Clergy will be mentoring individuals and training others to mentor others in the Christian faith.
- Seniors. Goal: For those in their golden years to be actively seeking to mentor younger members of St George's and pass on a spiritual legacy.

SENT

Given our high turnover of people, St George's will always be a sending church.

We want people to be captured by God's vision for them to shine with the light of Christ, to grow spiritually and be equipped to serve while they are with us so that they can be a blessing in the churches, communities and workplaces to which they go.

We are called to love and serve God and our neighbour with the gifts God has given us. We finish our communion services by praying, "Father we offer ourselves to you as living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of the Holy Spirit to live and work for your praise and glory" What might this look like?

Revelation 21 looks forward to the coming of the city of God, the new Jerusalem, where the Light of the Christ streams out of the city. Verse 24 reads:

The nations will walk by its light and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour to it.

We anticipate that day as we bring our splendour to Christ and walk by his light.

Walking by the Light of Christ - Being Public Disciples

Goal: Teaching from the pulpit, in Bible Studies and One to One Mentoring that trains people to be public disciples, namely, people who are:

- Confident in who we are as children of God
- Sensitive to how we are seen by outsiders
- Understand the stories and ideas that drive culture and shape people's lives
- Comfortable in our own skin as Christians in

- whatever context
- Character marked with humility, grace and generosity.
 - To the end that we may winsomely commend Christ in word and deed.

Evangelism Training

- Learning how to share your own story
- Learning the basics of the gospel
- Bible study to do this training once a year.
- Modelled from the front on Sunday - sharing spot
- Utilising the evangelists among us to inspire and equip others
- Following the simple strategy of (1) Praying, (2) Caring, and (3) Sharing

Bringing our splendour to Christ - Serving with the gifts God has given us

God has given each of us gifts with which to serve him and his world. At St George's we're committed to helping each person find their gifts and equipping them to serve.

Serving God's church

*"From Christ the whole body ... grows and builds itself up in love as each part does its work"
Ephesians 4.16*

We are convinced the best way to discern our gifts is by serving in church. We would like each member to ask,

- What needs are there?
- What can I do?
- What is my availability?

Leaders of ministries will always be looking to include new people and to train others.

The key role of clergy is the ministry of the Word and Prayer (Acts 6.4) and equipping the members of the body for service (Ephesians 4.11-12).

Leadership Development

- Training in Bible Study leading
- Training in one to one mentoring
- Training in Public Bible Reading
- Training in Leading Public Prayers
- Training in Service Leading

Serving God's World

"Now to each one a manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good"
1 Corinthians 12.7

God gives each of us a little patch of creation to cultivate.

We want to see people glorify God in their relationships as they grow in Christ-like character. We want to see people do their work to the glory of God.

Partners in the Gospel

As a sending church, we're also committed to mission. This is an expression of our values of Christ at the centre, unity in diversity and generosity. We support

- Tim and Emma in SE Asia
- Durdins with SIL and in Cambodia

- Andy Maskell with University Fellowship of Christians at UTas
- Andrea Ward as a chaplain at the Whittle Ward and Royal Hobart Hospital
- Andrea Hensher training for ministry at Ridley College in Melbourne
- Bruce Geeves in Seniors Ministry Strategy across the Diocese

For the Future: How can we love our neighbours?

PRAYER

“Prayer is the only entryway into genuine self-knowledge. It is also the main way we experience deep change, the reordering of our loves. Prayer is how God gives us so many of the unimaginable things he has for us. Indeed, prayer makes it safe for God to give us many of the things we most desire. It is the way we know God, the way we finally treat God as God. Prayer is simply the key to everything we need to do and be in life”
 - Tim Keller *Prayer*, p18.

This vision is beyond what we can do. But God can do more than we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3.20).

We recognise that we need to be changed in order to realise this vision. That change will only come as we encounter God’s love for us in Christ and are brought to worship the Father in the Spirit and through the Son. So we will be a people of prayer.

We will pray for our family and neighbours and for those whom God will draw to St George’s.

We will pray for ourselves and each other that God will transform us.

We will pray for Battery Point, our city, our state and our world.

We will pray that God shines the Light of Christ through us as we are sent into his world.

Key Strategies

- We invite all members of St George's to commit to praying for St George's, its people and ministry in regular personal prayer.
- Weekly Prayer points emailed by Rector to Prayer Team, Bible Study leaders and Parish Council
- We pray intentionally for God to provide specific people to lead areas of ministry
- Quarterly Combined Prayer meeting - all the Bible Studies meet together to pray
- Weekly prayer meeting
- Our ministries are regularly prayed for on Sunday
 - Kids and Youth (Kids Church, Teen Group, Playgroup, Scripture Club)
 - Adults (Alpha, Bible Studies, Seniors)
 - Leadership and Building (Parish Council, Restoration Project, Clergy)
 - Durdins
 - Tim & Emma
 - Andy Maskell
 - Andrea Ward
 - Andrea Hensher
 - Bruce Geeves

Notes

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

8am – Holy Communion

10am – Holy Communion and Kids Church

Morning Prayer 1st Sunday of the Month

ST GEORGE'S BATTERY POINT

The Light on the Hill

30 Cromwell St
Battery Point, Tasmania

(03) 6223 2146
admin@stgeorgesbattery.org
stgeorgesbattery.org