



ANNUAL
REPORT
2018



Contents

- 3 LETTER FROM RICHARD BEAUMONT
- 4 LETTER FROM ALLAN DEMOND
- 6 CHINESE, CONNECT TEAM
- 7 CROYDON
- 8 FAMILY OUTREACH, GROUPS
- 9 HOSPITALITY, INTERNSHIPS, ITS
- 10 NEWHOPE COMMUNITY CARE INC.
- 11 NEWHOPE GLOBAL, NEWHOPE KIDS, NEWHOPE MEDIA
- 12 NEWHOPE MEDICAL LTD, OFFICE, OLDER ADULTS
- 13 PERSIAN, PRESCHOOL
- 14 PRAYER, PROPERTY
- 15 SOCCER CLUB, SURREY HILLS
- 16 WORSHIP, YOUNG ADULTS
- 17 YOUTH, HUMAN RESOURCES
- 18 BAPTISMS AND MEMBERSIPS, FINANCE

LETTER FROM

Richard Beaumont

2018 at NewHope has been *"a year of completion, opening a world of opportunities."* The extended church building and pre-school have been finished and are already demonstrating to us what an amazing asset we have been provided with. The Medical Center is up and running, and with a second Doctor working at NewHope Medical - that ministry is growing daily. Yes, there were some building delays, we took on more than we had planned and achieved a lot. I have heard so many express their appreciation for the amazing job Warren and Jordan did - along with Surette and Josh managing the finances.

Church Members were incredibly supportive and patient throughout the process and I want to thank each one who gave, in so many different ways, to make this project a reality. The staff team all patiently endured and adjusted their work patterns to accommodate building changes while the ministry kept going.

Allan did an amazing job leading his team, and they continued on regardless. With a large staff team, supported by hundreds of volunteers, NewHope is continuing to gather momentum as we reach out to those God has placed us amongst. Let's not relax and slow down - rather let's be focussed and manage well the opportunities God has opened and will open for us.

In 2018 I have been learning the difference between God's blessing and God's favour. God blesses our efforts and initiative as we seek to grow the Kingdom, but *let's also pray for Gods favour to be on all we undertake at NewHope* - that God will show grace and give us opportunities that we don't expect and haven't sought after. It is then that we will see God at work *in* His people and *through* His people.

Psalm 90:17 *"May the favour of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us - yes establish the work of our hands."*

Thank you for all you have done in 2018 to establish our facilities - and for all you will do, as we seek God's favour in 2019.

Richard Beaumont
Chair

LETTER FROM

Allan Demond

'He is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.' 1 Corinthians 1:9

Church is a partnership. If a modern contract were to be drawn up, it would require Jesus' signature and our signatures – the work, the joys, the pains, the eternal wins, all this is meant to be shared with Jesus. And Jesus commitment to this partnership is solid, he will be 'faithful to do what he says'! Looking at 2018 in panorama, we can see this faithfulness and we can celebrate an amazing partnership with our Lord. Consider some blessings and challenges of 2018.

BLESSINGS

We launched the teaching ministry at NewHope in 2018 with 'Jesus the Game Changer', a study series produced by Olive Tree Media that focuses on the impact of Jesus and his followers upon Western culture. This excellent 13 week series was an inspiration and an eye-opener for many of us. Other teaching series through the year included 'The Revolution', a study of the Book of Colossians, 'Like a Child', exploring the questions kids ask and the faith they model, and 'Hallelujah Born to Praise'. We also enjoyed the blessing of interstate and international guests: Karen Wilson (an excellent contribution at our staff retreat), Karl Faase, Lisa Sharon-Harper and Mukunda Adhikari.

In August 2018 we came to the end of 20 months of building work and stepped into some wonderful new ministry spaces. These facilities will serve NewHope's growing ministry for years to come. The 'Building for God's Glory' project culminated in three

significant official openings: NewHope Medical on 17 May, NewHope Preschool on 12 Sept and the Community Centre on 24 Nov. Each of these events was a tremendous blessing as visitors celebrated with us, offering real encouragement and praise for what has been accomplished. We are tremendously grateful and we give all that praise back to God. Special thanks to Warren and Jordan Hill!

Several promotions and celebrations were an important part of 2018. Surette Southwood stepped up to become our Executive Pastor at the beginning of the year and Lance Blythe was appointed Associate Pastor in recognition of his experience, education and progress on the ordination pathway. Lance and Laura welcomed baby Eden, Anthea and Jordan welcomed baby Elsie and Pastor James Lin married Yeh. Michael Varney, Pastor of Anglesea Baptist and former Saturday evening Pastor at NewHope, was ordained in November.

Again in 2018 we witnessed amazing testimonies, stirring baptisms, healed relationships, answered prayers, transformed lives and abundant blessing. We have seen all these things across cultures, generations, social divisions and intractable challenges – nothing is impossible with God. He is at work in our midst and we praise him. What a joy to partner with Jesus!

CHALLENGES

At a members meeting on 7 March we participated as a church family in an apology regarding episodes of historic sexual abuse perpetrated by a NewHope volunteer in the early 1980s. NewHope is passionately

committed to being a safe place for all and while this experience was incredibly sad and deeply painful, we count it a privilege to serve survivors in their journeys of healing. Much has changed in the past 40 years and we have robust processes, careful screening and training approaches and constantly improving protocols in place to ensure safety for all.

A leadership failure which occurred some 15,000 kilometres away at the Willow Creek Church in Chicago, had a significant impact upon NewHope in 2018. Our commitment to host the Global Leadership Summit for the second time – a first rate video-cast leadership conference which originates from Willow Creek – drew the ire of a local protestor who visited us with fluoro signs on several occasions. Lots of meetings, prayer and listening led to a positive outcome, a successful GLS at NewHope and an invitation for Nancy Beach (a former Willow Creek staff member) to lead consultations across Australia in 2019 (watch the bulletin for details of her visit to NewHope, 15 May 2019).

Much grief impacted us in 2018. Over a dozen NewHope participants died and several of these were very large funerals with widely impacting networks and ramifications. We celebrated the lives of several long standing influential members, walked slowly and painfully towards death with dear friends, and reeled in shock at the sudden and completely unexpected loss of loved ones. We acknowledge the following and pray for their families: Rob Palmer, Gerry Burke, Nancy Fairweather, Mary Tindall, Irene Loukes, Don Aeschlimann, Gwen Farmilo, Margaret Baird, Jenny Pickard, Steve Hood, Debbie Shaw, Yvonne Murray, Tony Rule, Rob Swanton, Gretta Burke. In Jesus we have a hope that is stronger than death!

PERSONAL

The highlight of 2018 was 'walking down the aisle' with our daughter Becky so she could say 'I do' to David Black. We took the month of July to host members of our Canadian family, to celebrate fully and then rest deeply. It was wonderful! I continue to serve on three boards, Baptist Union of Victoria (State, local church), Baptist World Aid (National, global justice) and Willow Creek Association Australia (National, interdenominational, leadership). These governance roles bring much blessing to NewHope. 2018 included a few Interstate speaking engagements, several distance mentoring relationships, support for a doctoral student, co-authoring a published (JEHS) academic article, and teaching the preaching course at Whitley College. But the most rewarding time is always that spent with my dear colleagues and our precious extended family at NewHope. We love you all!

A big thank you to all our supporters in 2018. The generosity of so many good people contributing resources and linking hearts makes for a strong and vibrant church. The year ahead is full of promise. Our faithful Saviour – who will do what he says – is partnering with us into a new year of blessing. What could be more hopeful. Hallelujah!

Allan Demond
Senior Pastor

Chinese

JAMES LIN

2018 was a year of joy and challenge for the Chinese Ministry. James Lin and Ye were married in February. Alpha had strong attendance and a number of people seeking Jesus made steps of faith during this season. We celebrated 11 baptisms and had a real sense of the Holy Spirit moving in our worship services and offering breakthrough to many seeking Him through prayer. In early term 3 the church shared in a season of 10 days of prayer where God answered deep needs in many who were able to attend and pray through this season. Great services were held on Chinese New Year and the Mid Autumn Festival with over 150 people attending both of these events and many friends accepting invitations to attend.

Over the course of 2018 our average attendance gradually decreased by about 50% with a number of longstanding key leaders within the ministry finishing their time with NewHope. This led to a change in the leadership structure of the Chinese Ministry and a season of prayer, discernment and seeking to re-envision what God is leading us to. While there has been challenge due to the change in numbers and leadership in 2018 we sense God is leading us forward in His work among Mandarin speakers in Melbourne.

Connect Team

CATHY DE WITT

There are currently 80 willing and enthusiastic people on our Connect Team. They help to make NewHope the welcoming community that many attribute to, particularly on Sunday morning and evening services. These folks serve, usually monthly and get the opportunity to help newcomers connect into the life of NewHope. We gathered for a joy filled training lunchtime mid year to connect with one another and keep focus.

Being a truly welcoming church requires many to be ready to help others connect. It has been wonderful to see this culture grow in 2018 - where every NewHoper is a part of the connect team!

We would have hoped to see the numbers of the team swell in 2018. We are a lean team and challenges arise when someone cannot fulfil their role. There are many great opportunities moving forward. With the new building has come our beautiful new Parents Room for morning services with hosts. We hosted our first Connect morning tea for quite a long time in term 4. This was well attended.

The Lounge on Sunday evenings and lunch after 11am service once a month expand the Connect opportunities in a unique and personal way and have been very successful. It is encouraging to experience Connect opportunities during the week with different ministries.

Croydon

PHIL GAUDION

At our Croydon Campus, 2018 has been a full and blessed year with lots of surprising opportunities happening.

In Oct 2017 we dreamed of a 'Street Frontage' for Croydon so that people walking past would be able to 'see in' - within a week we had negotiated a rental space with Empart of a front unit of their building for our Weekday ministries. In February 2018 we birthed PlaySpace Croydon, and only by using FaceBook for our 'window', quickly had up to 30 families attending on a Wednesday sharing God's love over playtimes, coffee, craft, and even weekend family Movie Night events. PlaySpace Croydon was SO busy by Term 3 that we added a second day on Thursdays to further take advantage of the opportunities of families wanting playtime and coffee in the local area - 500 families are connected to us through our FaceBook page. Stacey Miller was baptised in the cold of July in the Broadbent's swimming pool as she found her family which she has never had over a 2 year or so journey, a journey that began through a NewHope Croydon neighbour, CAP Money Course, NHCC and then serving, Sunday services, small group and through all these things meeting Jesus and receiving his Love and Forgiveness!

Our Men's Groups hosted a number of coffee catch ups, Slot-Car social nights, Pool games at the pool hall in Lilydale and overall we had a fruitful year of building new and established relationships in a casual context. Croydon Women's Craft group is poised to take on a new direction in 2019. 2018 has been a year of consolidating relationships and in the new year we hope to add more spiritual content either through an Alpha Course element or KYB bible study. Serving the Croydon Football Club continues and with the relationships and opportunities deepening - The SALT program was run in full and was powerful in highlighting the challenges in culture and leadership. Phil Gaudion was noted as one of the most proactive leaders around the club and we look forward to continuing the relationships in 2019.

God has brought some more wonderful and gifted people into our midst in 2018 to join in ministry, doing life and journeying with us as team members to expand our Sunday worship services leadership for which we are SO grateful. 2018 overall has been a year of growing leadership as we have strived to put new leaders in place in many areas. God has been opening new doors and building new opportunities - growth and discipleship is slow and challenging yet rewarding all at once!

Family Outreach

SARAH MATTHEWS

Another 'joy' filled year of seeing our church building filled with young families coming to know and experience the love of Jesus. Our goal is to provide a place of hope and belonging for local families - a place to delight in their children and learn together.

Our Blackburn team hosted around 400 people each week in our PlaySpace, mainly music, mainly play, Dancetime and Seedlings groups. In term 3 we hosted the Alpha Parenting course which supported 12 families over a 10 week period with lots of good, practical, life-giving conversations amidst the mayhem!

The majority of our groups ran at capacity with waiting lists in place and we've seen an increase in the number of families connecting with both the NewHope Preschool and Family Outreach ministries. The year concluded with our Christmas Celebration in which 250 people came to hear the message of Christmas and enjoy crafts, bubbles, food and play together.

Groups

DANNY HUNT

2018 saw a growing and constant interest by newcomers and others in joining a NewHope Group. We continued to need more leaders and more groups. It was challenging to find places especially for younger families. The call to grow and multiply groups organically remains. We finished the year with 41 Blackburn based groups spread across the days of the week and our suburbs. The Jesus the Game Changer series was popular, and study notes based on the Sunday sermons were posted on our website each week. A new cluster model was begun to grow connection, support and accountability of groups and leaders. Our Communities of Hope vision kept challenging the groups to evaluate their priorities, helped by the well-attended midyear leaders training night. It was exciting to see some of our groups serving together beyond their group times or adopting projects.

Hospitality

SANETTE WOOD AND EVA GILLAM

We give praise and thanks to God for the privilege to serve Him and His people through hospitality. We are also grateful that our wonderful new facilities were opened in time for a number of large events.

Since our opening in August, our building extensions has seen growth in the number and range of events. As envisioned, the new building has provided great opportunities to serve the community, NewHope people and our ministries. We now have great flexibility and capacity to accommodate the needs and preferences for occasions large and small including weddings, funerals, conferences, school and other celebrations, small groups, prayer ministry, children's parties, formal and informal meetings. We rejoice in the return of former, long term groups and have already welcomed some new clients. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

Our café again was awarded a 5 star food safety rating and continues to provide excellent service. We are very grateful for the staff and many volunteers who generously give their time and warm smiles to welcome hundreds of people throughout the year.

Internships

LANCE BLYTHE

In 2018 we had two interns through our partnership with the OM internship program. Toby Jones (Youth) and Britney Ross (Family Outreach) were significant members of our team and contributed significantly to their respective ministry areas. The partnership with OM continues to bless ministries at NewHope as our church family provides a platform for ministry experience and personal development for interns who have invested 1 year of their lives to explore God's missional heart for the world.

Joel Hunt completed a second year of an internship with our Youth Ministry. He has continued to develop in leadership and ministry experience and acted as interim youth pastor for around 3 weeks while Ash was on ministry leave in the United States in March 2018. Joel will continue to lead as the Senior High program coordinator within the youth ministry in 2019.

ITS

DAVE SOBEY

It was a big year in the world of IT Services at NewHope. We had to juggle system maintenance and upgrades around the ongoing build project. Major projects that were completed include the relocation of the site's internet connection from its temporary home in the green room, to the new main data cabinet in the new building. We also connected the building on 522 Middleborough Road to the main building with a fibre optic connection, allowing the Medical Centre to take advantage of on-site services such as our phone and internet connections. Upgrades were also made to the Auditorium network to allow for higher quality videos to be streamed and recorded from events and services. Finally, we were able to employ Thomas Shields part time, on a six month contract to assist with day-to-day IT support for staff.

NewHope Community Care Inc.

MONIQUE TEN HOOPEN

Day after day, week after week, generally behind the scenes the presence, hearts and ministry of volunteers, leaders and staff have significantly impacted the lives of individuals and families struggling in our local community. A huge shout out and thanks to all who have prayed, donated food, finance, time, skill and other resources to feed hungry tummies, provide practical assistance, support, point to next steps, be a friend, share community and hope, helping people in tough places flourish.

Amongst the regular demands, 2018 marks the commencement of the COACH community mentoring program and NewHope Medical. Two huge initiatives that are already and will continue to reap long term impact and growth. We anticipate being able to share great stories from COACH in the NHCC Annual Report in May. NewHope Medical is a new legal entity and now includes the psychology and counselling service.

Whilst the demographics of Dinner Tonite continue to evolve and become less English speaking, the weekly demand is constant, we have been blessed with interpreters and 'next step' groups are being developed. ESL (English Second Language) Bible Study and the Mainly Music group continue. The broader program remained in recess and will relaunch in 2019.

The CAP Debt Centre and budgeting courses are constant. Food Pantry and Relief Care initiatives continue through the main campus, Congregations and Campuses, Communities of Hope, Preschools, Medical and as NewHoper's reach out caring for their neighbours and networks.

Our advocacy initiatives have included attending the Indigenous dinner and evening at Surrender:18, Andrew Naylor from Australian's Together preaching in May; the screening of the movie Human Flow, highlighting the global refugee crisis; social media posts; attendance and involvement in the Justice Conference and ongoing awareness raising through Unshackled. We were blessed with advocate Lisa Sharon Harper preaching in October and attending our volunteer's thank you lunch. Advocacy also continues through day to day pastoral work supporting asylum seekers and refugees. Staff also report regular interaction with matters of domestic violence.

NewHope's involvement in LinC Whitehorse, Jubilee Housing and the City of Whitehorse ROC (Redeeming Our Communities) and networking with other services in our local communities continues to strengthen.

NewHope Global

DANNY HUNT

All year we have sought to profile the significance and opportunities of our global mission and vision, and all of us being Agents of Hope. Our adoption of the Ethnic Thai as our unreached people group through Global Interaction, and our commitment to the community development projects in Nepal through Baptist World Aid Australia and funded by our Christmas offering, continue to be central. A small team has been preparing to visit Thailand in January. We financially supported 10 partnerships with Elam, Global Interaction, OM, Pioneers, SIM, Wycliffe and YWAM through our NewHope Global Fund. NewHope Groups were encouraged to adopt one of them. Projects with Compassion, Entrust, Samaritans Purse and Tear Fund were also represented. 3 weekly emails and monthly prayer points subscriptions grew slightly, adding to the monthly NewHope News bulletin notices. The international and multicultural character of NewHope helped keep our eyes out on the harvest fields.

NewHope Kids

ALICIA DEMOND

We celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness in 2018! It has been a year of change and settling into new opportunities. The completion of the new building means that now all the children are together on the one level for the first time. The junior kids are enjoying fresh new spaces and there is room for growth especially at the 11am service.

Over 350 children have attended NewHope Kids in the last year with an average of 200 attending each week and nearly 100 leaders serving across the weekend.

2018 has also seen many of our amazing young leaders stepping up into new roles with some joining our core team to have input into planning and preparation and others contributing to new initiatives like our first Kids Worship Night which ran in conjunction with Gathered Prayer and offered a chance for families to come worship together.

NewHope Media

DAVE SOBEY

Things continue to grow in the media office. We produced 23 'NewHope Stories' which were played in worship services across the church and are continued to be played online. Our online presence continued to grow across NewHope's Social Enterprises. We also assisted with the opening the new Medical Centre, which involved finalising conversations around branding which began in late 2017, and employing a local marketing strategy.

With a new building comes requirements for local advertising through signage, and NewHope Media designed and fitted (with the help of Property) dozens of new room and way finding signs, as well as a new double-screen digital signage solution throughout the building.

NewHope Media continues to support NewHope Baptist Church (Blackburn, Croydon and Surrey Hills), NewHope Medical, NewHope Preschool, and NewHope Community Care for their relative communication needs.

NewHope Medical Ltd.

DENISE FORSYTH

March 2018 saw the realisation of a new ministry with the opening of the NewHope Medical centre at the newly renovated 522 Middleborough Road premises. Our services have grown over the year and we now provide general practitioners, nurse, counselling and psychology services as well as hosting podiatry and paediatric speech therapy.

As a practical illustration of loving others and serving the world, our vision is to provide medical and counselling services in a Christian environment while also connecting our patients into the many communities and services offered by NHBC.

We have been blessed by the prayers of the NewHope family, experiencing a growing number of patients and the long awaited addition of a second GP to our team.

Office

SILVIA MARSHALL

NewHope staff moved to their new offices in April this year. Reception had a temporary home until the new reception area was finished. Early October we moved to our new reception. The new area is very central and people can be welcomed, a lot of people are commenting about how much they enjoy the new building.

Once again, our amazing volunteers provided invaluable support across all areas of the Office and Reception. A big Thank You to each and every one!!

Older Adults

DANNY HUNT

Our older adults persevering passion to reach out to others and selflessly contribute their time and resources set a good example for all of us. Each week Indoor Bowls and Chat & Choose Craft built relationships with many still to follow Jesus. The alternating monthly Prime Timers lunches and Seniors on Monday morning teas brought stimulating input from a range of speakers. The monthly Blokes Group continued to be an important connecting opportunity. Throughout the year it was inspiring to see the ongoing committed care and support by their peers of those with significant health or mobility issues.

Persian

SAM FARBOD

In 2018, our Persian congregation continued in its endeavour to train and equip new leaders for Kingdom work. God is doing amazing work among Iranians in Australia, Iran and throughout the world. Our Persian ministry strives to reach out, teach, equip and nourish the thirsty souls who are called to be the Lord's people. In order to reach wider Muslim communities in Australia, a website and multiple social media platforms have been developing in 2018 and will be extended in 2019.

The Persian community has developed new groups of Serve Teams in 2018 to enhance its efficiency in pursuing NewHope's vision and Mission in reaching, serving and discipling Farsi-speaking Muslim communities (Iranians and Afghans) around Melbourne and Australia. People in this community are excited by the initiatives taken in furthering their integration with members of wider community of the church family.

Preschool

MELISSA ADAM

NewHope Preschool 2018, saw the completion of our building upgrade and a new beginning as we opened a second room. Our first day back we were welcomed to a worksite which had to be totally transformed into an operational preschool environment in about 48 hours. Our team was small yet determined and worked tirelessly to get it done. This was no easy task! The next step was conducting our interviews whilst awaiting our new licence. We relied on God's provision as we received the new licence within days of the children commencing. The new licence enabled our centre to increase from 30 children at a time to 44 children so we could run two groups simultaneously and open a second three year old group (Koala's). Many of our 88 families were brand new to the NewHope community. We also welcomed new staff to the team, increasing our staffing team up to 10 people.

Sadness and difficulty of loss was felt as we joined our church family in grieving the passing of our dear colleague, friend and Koala Educator, Jenny Pickard at the end of term three and whilst the team was aware of Jenny's health challenges, Jenny's final goodbye was very sudden. Caring for the families and team throughout the weeks to follow enabled great reliance on God and the wonder of the rich tapestry of cultures and how they experience grief was a blessing to be a part of.

Some of the joys and highlights of the year include God's provision, ongoing wisdom and guidance, His healing, merciful hand at work, His sustaining strength and peace, God's strong foundation has been our sustaining strength as we mentor, care for and disciple families and children. The establishment of a sustainability program including four vegetable/herb patches, fruit trees, a worm farm and compost system (which is being used by the café too) along with our Indigenous acknowledgement plaque and spectacular upgrade opening were definite blessings in 2018.

We continue to celebrate all that God has done in the preschool, for our beautiful new facilities, His gracious hand on our families and team and for His ongoing strength and wisdom which leads us each day. We are truly thankful for the ever-strengthening links from the preschool and church that embrace our community and care for those He entrusts into our care. It is a privilege to serve as a leader in this ever-growing ministry.

Prayer

CATHY DE WITT

2018 has been a year where we celebrate God's spirit moving in mighty ways. Stories of blessing, healings and significant ministry in both corporate and individual settings have been rich and exciting. We have brilliant and committed prayer leaders who are diligent, passionate and intentional in their ministry.

Gathered Prayer has been a new and refreshing addition to the corporate prayer life at NewHope. Our senior pastor Allan Demond has led 4 of these churchwide midweek gatherings that has seen about 50 plus people in attendance. People are seeking God in worship and prayer and the sharing of stories.

Healing Prayer Ministry has had the privilege of ministering to many with 250 client appointments this year, seeing breakthrough and deep healings.

Many other prayer groups have gathered together to partner with our mighty God in the work He is doing within NewHope and beyond. These include midweek and preservice prayer for the church and her ministries. The leaders have noted a disappointment in the number of people attending. We will focus on strategies moving forward.

Liz Lee and her team have provided 2 prayer retreat days this year.

92 individuals are on the weekly prayer email list and are a vital integral part of praying over our church family and their many needs. We have rejoiced at the way God has regularly done 'more than we could ever dream or imagine' in this past year.

Elijah House prayer ministry training is run by Julien and Stephen Winspear. NewHope crafted a partnership with Elijah House based on the relationship with the Winspears in 2018.

Property

MICHAEL HENSHAW

With the building works continuing in the first part of the year, our first seven months was a time of helping ministries fit within the available space and preparing for the completion of our new extensions. From August there has been a great flurry of activity, starting with the removal of our 'red' chairs and installing new, lighter chairs that are easier to move and give greater flexibility in seating formats. The new facilities have been put to great use with all kinds of events and a great variety of formats. I remain extremely grateful for our volunteers who freely avail their gifts and time to assist me in all sorts of property related work. It was with great sadness that we farewelled a long term volunteer and friend, Don Aeschlimann, who passed away in June. Recently two new volunteers have joined the property team and we have a new lock up person.

Soccer Club

CRAIG & MEGAN STEVEN

BNFC has had another busy, busy season with a focus on developing a strong community within the club. Regular newsletters, coach and team manager events and the initial development of a leadership team have enabled a stronger community to begin to form within the club.

With 29 teams and our kick off program running each week the club rooms and grounds see up to 1000 people on site each Saturday. We continue to have key club members also involved in the leadership of the Victorian churches football association.

This year we saw particular success in our senior teams with team Lupi winning division 1 and many other teams coming in top positions within their competition divisions.

A big thanks goes out to all those great folk that serve week in week out supporting this ministry. You know who you are!

In 2019 We are bringing on board Martin Caruthers as our Coach Team Lead. He has some fantastic plans in store for all our coaches! Thanks Martin for stepping into this important role.

As we look towards 2019 we are looking to develop a team of young adults who can take ownership of the club and be the bridge for many between community and church. We dream of BNFC being seen like a satellite campus that meets on a Saturday morning with over half of those in attendance not being actively involved in a church. How awesome is that for a mission field dished up to our doorstep each week?

Surrey Hills

JESS GROSZEK

In 2018 a dedicated team of people established Messy Church at the Surrey Hills Campus. What a joy to see our prayers and dreams become a reality. Our first Messy Church on August 12 drew together families from diverse backgrounds, with some on a new journey of faith together. Monthly gatherings followed until December where we explored the big statements made by Jesus about himself: I am the Light of the World, I am the Good Shepherd and I am the Bread of Life. It was wonderful to see an all ages gathering that was a great encouragement to grandparents, parents and children. Messy Church has provided an avenue for faith exploration for families involved in Surrey Hills' weekly Mainly Music groups and some Children's Centre families. Monthly Messy Church will continue in 2019.

Our Alpha course drew a small, dedicated group of people to respond to Jesus' call to come and follow him. It was a joy to walk with people who were discovering or rediscovering God's love for them. An ongoing group, meeting fortnightly has been born out of this Alpha course.

Our evening Communities of Hope have continued to meet and encourage one another throughout 2018, with a desire to maintain a focus of outreach in 2019, and service to the Children's Centre where we meet.

Worship

MEGAN STEVEN & TIM SPENCER

2018 has been a year of much celebration and growth for the worship team with many new team members across our service groups, three new worship babies born over the year - Joshua to Chris and Yolanda, Eden to Laura and Lance and Elsie to Anthea and Jordan, new leaders emerging in all congregations and lots of new material both technical and musical for our team to work with throughout the year. Work was completed on the new sound system and auditorium building which has had a fantastic impact on the teams ability to serve the wider NewHope Community, including events such as GLS, Whitehorse Carols, Gathered Prayer and many more. We celebrated Anthea and Jordan's ministry in the middle of the year before Anthea went on maternity leave and welcomed Tim Spencer and Megan Steven as Worship Ministry leaders for the second half of 2018. During team nights we have had a focus on growing our relationship with God and with each other, enabling a deeper experience of God's presence during our worship times both as a smaller group and as our congregational groups. Regular Chill with God spaces featured in the second half of 2018 as we took time to pray and reflect together. It has been amazing seeing the worship in our corporate gatherings this year moving to a much more responsive space and we celebrate the amazing work that God is doing in our community.

Young Adults

CATHY DE WITT

With about 110 Young Adults on the books and 7 small groups run by enthusiastic leaders, we have enjoyed a solid year in the ministry.

With a restructure which has been sewing into the future of YA, the transition seems to have been fairly smooth.

Whilst I have been the Young Adults pastor, Lance Blythe has been training and connecting with the leaders. An executive was formed this year which has given more say to emerging leaders and peer input, led by Braeden Shields and Adam Southwood.

The groups have gathered weekly in homes, and a couple of times a term as a big group to socialise and grow. The focus has also been on pointing Young Adults to gather and worship at the 5.30pm service.

To see them grow in faith and their desire and equipping to share their faith has been a goal.

Jeremy Ng has led a midweek games night every fortnight which has been a unique opportunity to outreach in a simple form.

Youth

ASH ROSEVEAR

2018 has been an incredible year at Shift Youth, with bigger camps, better games, more baptisms, and deeper chats about Jesus. We completed the Youth Alpha series in Term 2 and 3, and learnt a lot, not just about what we believe as followers of Jesus, but why we believe what we do.

Our Interns, Joel Hunt and Toby Jones undertook more responsibility in 2018 which included running the youth Alpha series in 2018, and the planning and running of our much loved youth camp in Marysville, and both flourished in their roles.

Our worship culture is stronger than ever, and one of the highlights for me is seeing teenagers week after week sing about their love for Jesus and declare his love for them. It's so powerful. Our Youth band is also the strongest we have ever seen it, being led by Tim Spencer and Chelsea De Witt. I can't wait to see what God has planned for 2019 as we seek to grow, seek joy, but most importantly, chase after Jesus with all we've got.

Human Resources

SURETTE SOUTHWOOD

Summary

	Staff Number*	FTE TOTAL *	Unpaid Staff No/FTE	Contractors No/FTE
NewHope Baptist Church	32	18.9	3 / 1.4	3 / 0.9
Middleground Café	5	2.4	0	0
NewHope Community Care	4	2.4	0	0
NewHope Medical	6	3.82	0	3 / 1.52
NewHope Pre-School	8	3.7	0	0
Surrey Hills BCC	29	18.8	0	0
TOTAL	84	50.02	1.4	6 / 2.42

Baptisms & Membership

Total Members on 31 Dec 2017 (as advised to BUV) 915

Additions to Membership Roll during 2017

Baptisms:	42
Transfer in:	6
Profession:	2

Reductions to Membership Roll during 2017

Transfer to another church:	5
Reserve Roll:	3
Deaths:	10
Total Members on 31 Dec 2018	947

Total number of Baptisms between 1 Jan and 31 Dec 2018

Blackburn English Congregation	19
Croydon Congregation	1
Chinese Congregation	11
Persian Congregation	11

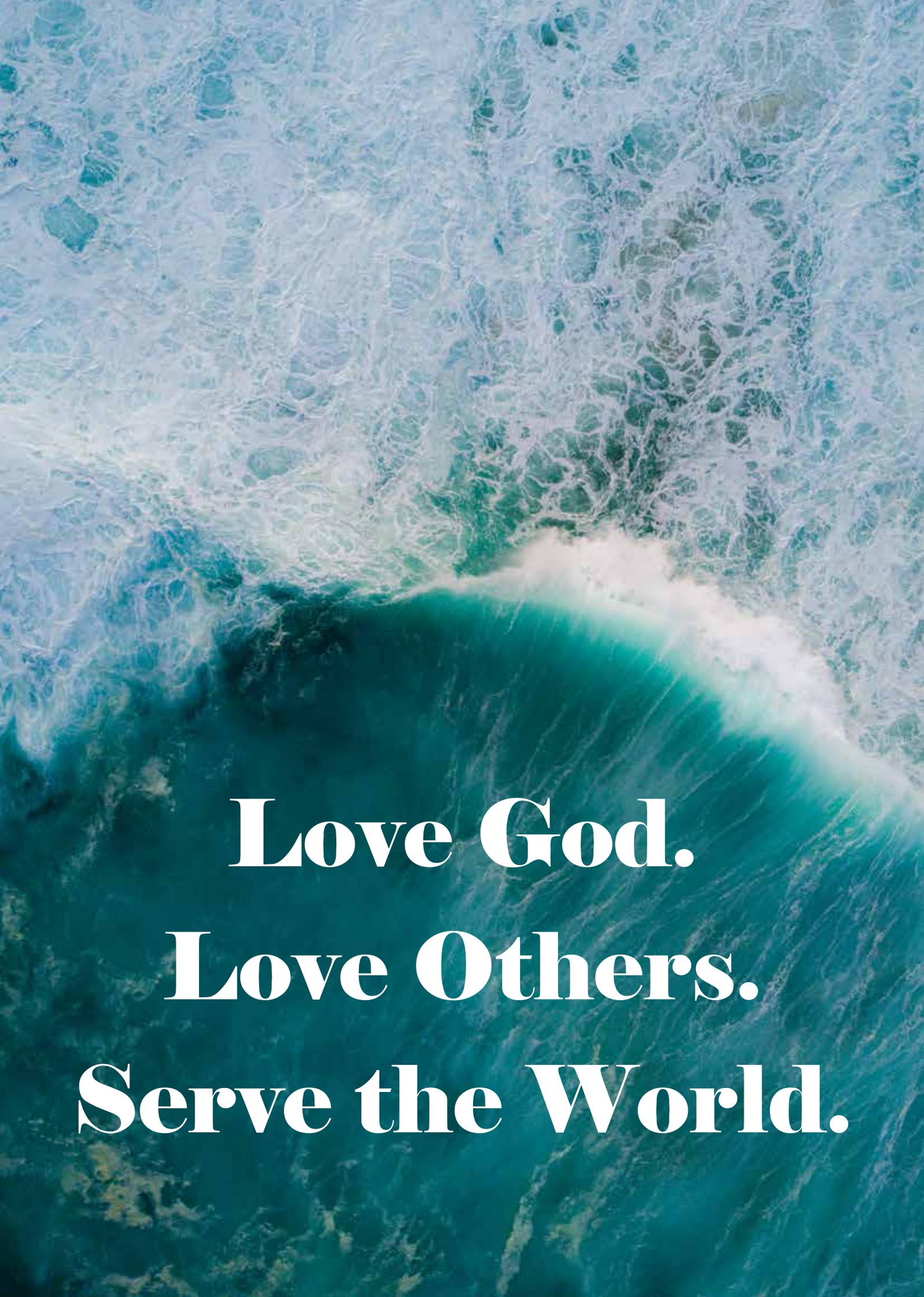
Finance

JUDY LOUIE

Our church faced a number of challenges in 2018 such as the reduction in café and event income due to the church building renovation. Newhope Medical Ltd currently has two medical doctors but we need more doctors to join the team in order to make it more financially viable. NewHope Community Care at this time has received sufficient funds so that it could operate smoothly and contribute towards the community. Our church offering fluctuated in 2018; however, God met all our needs according to His glorious riches. The following verse from the bible encouraged us very much as we continue to work for Christ and thank Him in advance for all the solutions that He is going to provide, according to His amazing power and kindness.

“When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?” He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.” John 6:5-6

A full financial report (pre-audit) will be made available at the Annual General Meeting on the 25th of March.



Love God.
Love Others.
Serve the World.



newhope
baptist church

NewHope Baptist Church

3 Springfield Rd,
Blackburn North

9890 7999

newhope.net.au