

Church Family News, December 2023



HOBART BAPTIST CHURCH, SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER

This Sunday Stephen Baxter will bring the final message for 2023, and will encourage us as we look forward to the year ahead.

SERMON: Looking Backward, Looking Forward

BIBLE READING: Psalm 65

WATCH: LIVE on YouTube at 10.00am Sunday

A Q&A session take place after the sermon each Sunday. To join, text a question to **0491 070 718**.

You are welcome to **stay on after the Sunday service only** for fellowship over morning tea, including a coffee from Esteem.

Both **Kids' Church** and **HBC Youth** are in recess for the holidays.

For enquiries regarding room use/hire, please email Kelvin Smith (kelvin@citynetworks.org.au).



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



DECEMBER

SUNDAY 31st 10:00am. Looking Back, Looking Forward. Psalm 65

JANUARY

SATURDAY 6th 10:00am. WEDDING: Gaynay Hsa (Paw Nay's daughter) and Ray Muku
Hidden Garden Estate Berriedale

SUNDAY 7th 10:00am. Summer of Psalms – Psalm 126

SUMMER OF PSALMS SERMON SERIES

The book of Psalms is a treasury of poetry and song.
For this reason, they are deeply precious to many people.

This summer we are going to hear from some of our community as they reflect on their chosen Psalm in our Summer of Psalms series.

Together we will celebrate the beauty, honesty and rawness of the Psalms.

[READ MORE >](#)



This year Baptist World Aid's **Christmas Appeal** aims to help break the cycle of poverty and to fight injustice. If you were not in church on Christmas Day it is not too late to make a donation.

Slips are available near the offering boxes in church this Sunday or you can give through the church account, suitably labelled, or visit bwaa.co/fight-poverty.

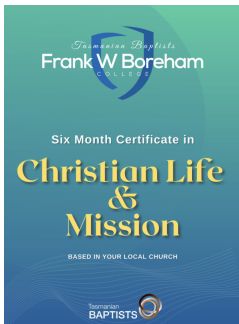
WANTED – STUDENT ACCOMODATION

A female student from the NW Coast is moving to Hobart in 2024 for University. Her parents are looking for accommodation for her and would love for her to be housed in a share house with other Christians.

If you are able to assist, or are aware of any accommodation arrangements that might be suitable, please let the secretary know by email – secretary@hobartbaptist.org.au.

They family is affiliated with Life Christian Church in Ulverstone, North West Tas.

STUDY IN TASMANIA – CERTIFICATE IN CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MISSION



FIRST INTAKE 21 JANUARY TO 1 JULY 2024

If you sense God's call to ignite your faith and want to dig deeper into Christ, Tasmanian Baptists are now offering a certificate training program that begins early next year.

The six month *Certificate in Christian Life and Mission* offers training in local Baptists churches in Tasmania. The course is for people of all ages, whether retired, employed or unemployed, and for those just beginning a life of faith or well along the journey.

Training pathways include undergraduate and graduate ministry and theological qualifications. [More information is located on the Tasbaptists website here.](#)

To start the journey, a weeklong Foundations Course is being offered in Burnie beginning 21 January 2024. [To register and for more info, download the brochure here.](#)

For more info about the six month Certificate or week long Foundations Course, contact Jenna Blackwell jenna@tasbaptists.org.au.

CHURCH ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING OUTCOMES

If you missed the Hobart Baptist Church Annual Members' Meeting in **November**, visit the [HBC Members and Others Page](#).

GIVING – YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

'Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.'

[2 Corinthians 9:7](#)

We thank all who give faithfully on a regular basis, as without this support we would not be able to operate. Your offerings support our budget: and through that it enables the church to continue to be an important part of the North Hobart



landscape and the place from where we can prophetically serve the City of Hobart.

It is where we can know the benefit of worshipping with others, where we hear the stories of Jesus and how they apply to us, where we are encouraged in our journey with Jesus, from where we can share God's love with others and help them to know and trust in God themselves. Our influence can also be far reaching – there is no limit to God's love through our deeds and actions. Thank you for your generosity.

EFT is a great way to ensure regular giving and as well there are offering boxes available for use as you leave the Sanctuary.

[You can give online here](#)

Is There Room for Jesus?



17 to 25 December 2023

December is often referred to as 'the silly season'. It's a time when our lives become very full with finishing work projects, completing courses, planning family events and buying Christmas gifts for our loved ones.

But in all of the business, have we made December so full that there's no longer any room for Jesus in Christmas?

How do we shape our lives so that we are not losing sight of Jesus this season? How can we put Him at the centre of Christmas?

Series Schedule – click the sermon title to watch

1	17 Dec	Judges 21:25; Rev 3:20; Luke 2:7	Is There Room?	Matt Henderson
2	24 Dec	Psalm 46:10; Ecc 3:1; Matt 11:28-30	Making Room	TBD
3	25 Dec	John 15:15; Prov 3:6; Rom 12:2; John 10:10b	Living Room	Matt Henderson

HBC Members – and Others!



Hobart Baptist Church would not exist without the support and care of our official membership.

Outcomes – Annual Members' Meeting – 26 November 2023

The Hobart Baptist Church Annual Members' Meeting took place held in the Gibson Hall last Sunday 26 November 2023 following the 10am service.

ELECTION OF DEACONS AND OFFICERS

The election took place by ballot, and all those nominated were elected unanimously:-

Deacons elected for a 3 year term: David Knox, Celia Munro and Heather Galloway. For a 1 year term: Ben Wagner.

Officers elected for 2024:

- Secretary: No Nomination
- Treasurer: Ben Wagner
- Assistant Secretary: Joanna Sinclair
- Assistant Treasurer: Kylie Henderson

The following nominations for **Children and Youth Leaders** were confirmed:

- Kids' Church: Tracy Ortiz
- Youth: Scott Ambrose
- Boys' Brigade Captain: Scott Ambrose
- Boys' Brigade Chaplain: Kelvin Smith

The **Finance Committee** for 2024 was confirmed: Ben Wagner, Kylie Henderson, Geoffrey Clarke, Heather Galloway and William Maguire.

The **Pastoral Visitation Coordinator** for 2024 was confirmed: David Knox

We are grateful for the willingness of these people to serve Hobart Baptist Church in this way. Please pray for them in the coming year.

The **Financial Report and Statements for 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023** were presented by the Chairman and accepted.

HBC General Members' Meeting

A General Members' Meeting followed on after the Annual Members Meeting.

- Reports from the Senior Pastor and Secretary were presented.
- The Final Budget for 2023-2024 FY, as presented by the Chairman, was accepted.
- The meeting agreed to reappoint Matt Henderson as Associate Pastor, 2 days per week, from the 7 February 2024 when his current 2 year term expires.
- Jeremiah Ambrose was accepted into Membership of HBC.

*Heather Galloway,
Secretary*

Members' Meetings are held quarterly, and are open to members and non-members alike.

The Members are led by the Deacons, who meet monthly.

HBC Diaconate 2023

Chair: Scott Ambrose

Secretary: Heather Galloway

Assistant Secretary: Joanna Sinclair

Treasurer: Vacant

Assistant Treasurer: Kylie Henderson

Ex-officio: Stephen Baxter

Ordinary Deacons: Celia Munro; David Needham; Joel Ortiz; Jing Priest