



SHARE

THE GOSPEL

WITH HOBART

St John's
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

PRAY
REACH
GROW



SERVE WITH US

Thirty-three percent more people in Hobart claim to have “no religion” than the Australian average. By God’s leading we need your help to prepare our congregation to reach them!

St. John’s is a diverse, growing church right in the Hobart CBD. You will find the Sunday gatherings are straightforward and easy to understand, with a mix of the old and the new, and with an emphasis on clear, Christ centred preaching from the Bible.

With over 150 people attending weekly across two gatherings the church family represents a vast cross section of Hobart society. Our youngest member was born this year, with over 50 children under 12 attending regularly. Our oldest member is well into her nineties. We come from many nations and backgrounds – from Af-

rican refugees to Asian students, European post-war migrants and there are plenty of us with British convict blood.

Altogether it makes for a diverse group of Christians committed to being authentic, thoughtful disciples of Jesus in our increasingly post-Christian city. The church is governed by a session of elders, supported by a pastoral diaconate and a board of management which takes care of the property and finances.

We have just embarked on major improvements to our building having adopted a Master Plan to guide development over the coming decades. Beyond the Sunday gatherings there are nine Growth Groups meeting either weekly or fortnightly in people’s homes, and in the church building, to study the bible, pray and support one

another. The congregation meets to pray monthly, and a mission support group meets monthly. We also have a weekly youth group and the Sunday School runs to three classes with a regular attendance around 25.

Hobart itself is a wonderful place to live. Hobart has always been a favourite among nature lovers and outdoor adventurers, but in recent years our festivals and the growth of our food and cultural scenes have been getting us noticed from the other side of Bass Strait, and from around the world.

That’s not to say the life of a gospel worker in Hobart will be easy, nor that the role won’t be challenging. But the harvest is ripe, the workers are few, and we are praying that by God’s leading you might find yourself called to join us in His service in this corner of His world.

OUR MISSION

The risen and ruling Lord Jesus has given us the mission of making disciples. We will do that by **prayerfully** going into all His world, declaring His gospel, in the power of His Spirit, so that we may **reach** and gather His people. Together, as His church we will lovingly teach one another to obey all of His commands so that we may **grow** to be more like Him, until His return, to the glory of God the Father.

We commit ourselves as God’s people to Pray, Reach, and Grow.

THE ROLE

Full time, suitably remunerated position starting January 2022

1. To help the Senior Minister equip the people of St John's for works of service (Eph. 4:12)
2. Work closely with the Senior Minister to build a healthy community of believers who are confident in the gospel and the promises of God and keen to reach out into the wider community of Hobart and beyond.
3. Preach approximately once a Month.
4. Lead and coordinate the weekly Youth Group.
5. Oversight of:
 - 0-21's ministry (i.e. children's ministries, youth ministries and the transition from secondary to tertiary study)
 - Connect Groups
 - Ministry Team Leaders
 - Church-wide Equipping for Ministry

YOUR QUALITIES

1. Ability to work well with other leaders in the church as part of a team ministry
2. Able to train others and spur them on to love and good deeds
3. Ability to foster unity in a congregation
4. Good interpersonal communication skills across all age groups
5. A "people person" with a genuine love for brothers and sisters in Christ as well as the lost
6. Desire to shepherd and care for those in need
7. Meets the qualifications for an elder as listed in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9

NEXT STEPS

To express your interest please submit a resume and cover letter with at least one referee to alistair@stjohnshobart.com. We will acknowledge receipt of your submission within two weeks and may request further information as required.

We may contact your referee without notice, but in every other respect your expression of interest will remain confidential.

For more information contact Alistair Bain on 0407568717 or email alistair@stjohnshobart.com





MINISTRY EMPHASES

As you will be working closely with our Senior Minister, Rev. Alistair Bain, below is a summary of his personal ministry emphases.

Approach to Outreach

God is a missional God. And we, as his people, are to be missional people. The church, having been caught up by God in his grand plan to restore the world, is to be a herald for God.

The church exists to declare God's praises to the world (1 Peter 2:9). Therefore, as those called from darkness into God's wonderful light, the Church is God's most powerful gospel apologetic. We are to be always thinking of those who do not yet know Jesus, and as we continue to be shaped and changed and transformed by the gospel, we are to hold out that same gospel to those living around us.

So, I have a deliberately stripped back, low key, anti-hype, long term approach to both pastoral care and evangelism. This approach is deeply relational. I encourage Christians to make friends with non-Christians and to be sharing their life with them. In my preaching I always have non-Christians in mind and I pray that God will use my preaching to reach them. I believe that the gospel is the answer to every problem in the world so in my discipleship and training and pastoral care, I continually point my fellow believers to the cross (and I want them to point me to the cross as well). I encourage them to live good lives that are shaped by the gospel so that those with whom they come in contact will see their good deeds and will glorify God (1 Peter 2: 12).

That is not to say that I don't see the benefit of the occasional

"evangelistic" event. I think evangelistic events are a great way of getting people to hear the gospel. And I do like the idea of having a regular evangelistic event in the city which is pitched at the business end of town. But I would not want "events" to be seen as the chief evangelistic work of the church. I believe that as people live prayerful lives which are shaped by the gospel, and as they encounter non-believers, and as the Holy Spirit is at work in them, their lives become evangelistic "events" in themselves. This is particularly relevant in our post-Christian, post-modern, secular world where most non-believers are not asking "is Christianity true?" Rather, they watch how we live and ask, "is Christianity good?"

Personal Ministry Emphases & Objectives

Preaching

I strive to preach in a conversational manner which is free from Christian jargon. I try to use vivid language and will always use illustrations and stories to help explain the meaning of the text.

Mentoring/Discipling

I have adopted for my ministry a maxim from Col Marshall - "sow deep in a few." That will mean I preach the gospel to everyone every week. But during the week I will try to find time to strategically invest in those who are obviously spiritually hungry.

Ministry Model

I am drawn to the low key, patient, anti-hype, and long term approach

to pastoral care and evangelism. I like to emphasise hospitality and relationships. I have found Sam Chan's most recent book, *How to Talk about Jesus (Without Being That Guy)* very helpful. Furthermore, we partner with City Bible Forum in Hobart, as well as the AFES workers at UTAS, and enjoy learning about evangelism from those good people.

With respect to the Sunday gathering, I have found Tim Keller's article "Evangelistic Worship" very helpful. Each time I preach I am hoping God will bring every person in the building to repentance and faith. For some that will be for the first time. For others, it won't be. But the result in them will be the same - a turning away from, idols and a turning towards Jesus. I preach I as if there are many sceptical onlookers present and I try to spend time in my sermon speaking directly to them and answering questions which I know they are asking.

I want non-believers to come to Sunday gatherings. And if the believers I preach to every week know that I am sensitive and respectful to their non-believing friends, they will be more likely to bring them along.

It is my strong conviction that if we are going to attract outsiders to the Sunday gatherings then we must preach in this way. And I have been encouraged that members of St John's have begun bringing their non-Christian relatives and friends to hear my preaching.