



## **2025 AGM Reports**

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**MOOREBANK**  
**HAMMONDVILLE**  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

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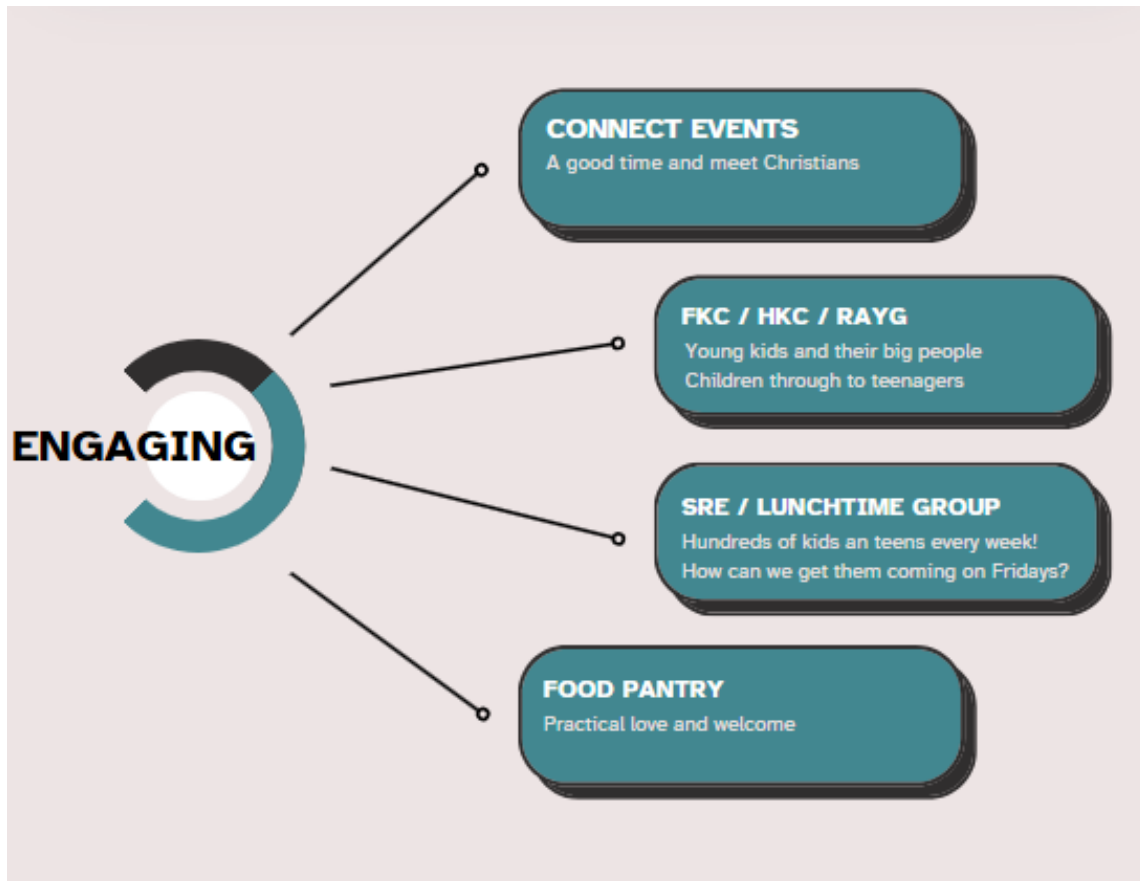
## Rector's Report 2025

Together we seek to be

*joyfully trusting following and sharing Jesus*

How did we go throughout 2024?

How did we engage our Community?

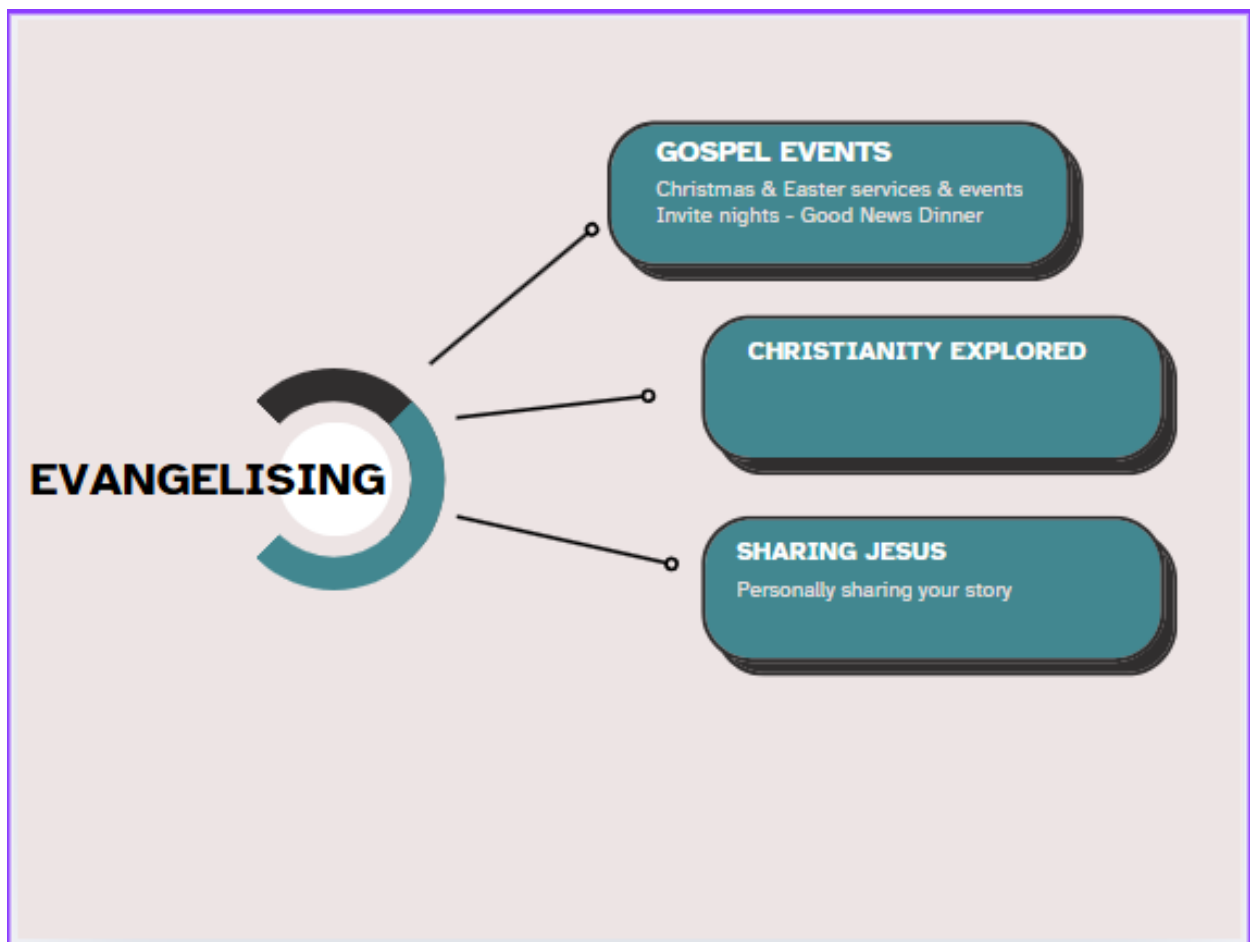


- Connect Events - Women's connect events during the year to try and provide pathways for people to become connected with the MHAC community.
- FKC / HKC / RAYG
  - Biggest HKC for a while! Kids from non-church families
- SRE / Lunchtime Group We have also engaged the community by teaching 500-600 kids through SRE (School Scripture).

- Food Pantry connected us with our Community throughout 2024. We provided support and assistance to those in need, including the elderly, the unemployed and those with limited English.

**KEY CHALLENGE – how can we move people from connection to joining us on Sundays.**

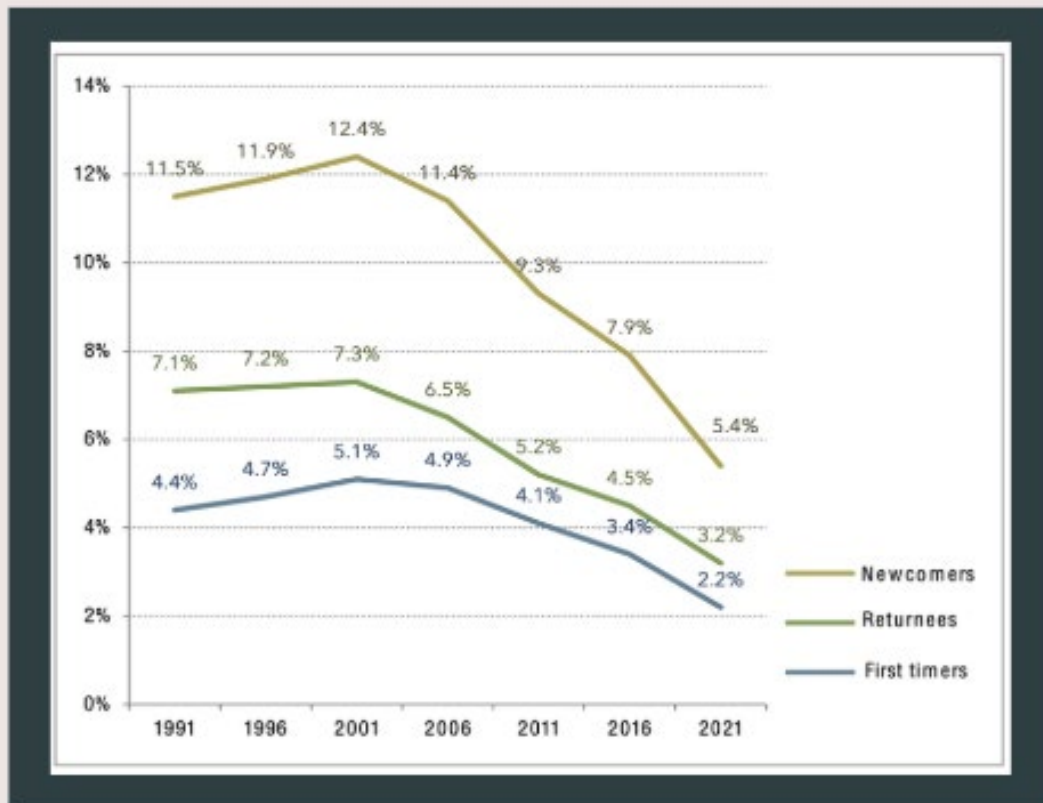
### How did we evangelise our Community?



- Last year we ran three major gospel events – Easter Eggstravaganza, Christmas and Carols and the Good news Dinner.
- We ran Christianity Explored once throughout the year.
- Throughout the year – we sought to encourage and equip people to be sharing Jesus themselves. It was our first year of having ‘Adventures in Evangelism’. This is training for our whole church family about who we might be effectively sharing Jesus.

- Our faithfulness and fruitfulness in sharing Jesus needs to be a focus for prayer in 2024
- A Diocesan discussion... [b49903 f690984624dc4265b770c8936881ceb8.pdf](https://www.b49903-f690984624dc4265b770c8936881ceb8.pdf)

## A Diocesan discussion...



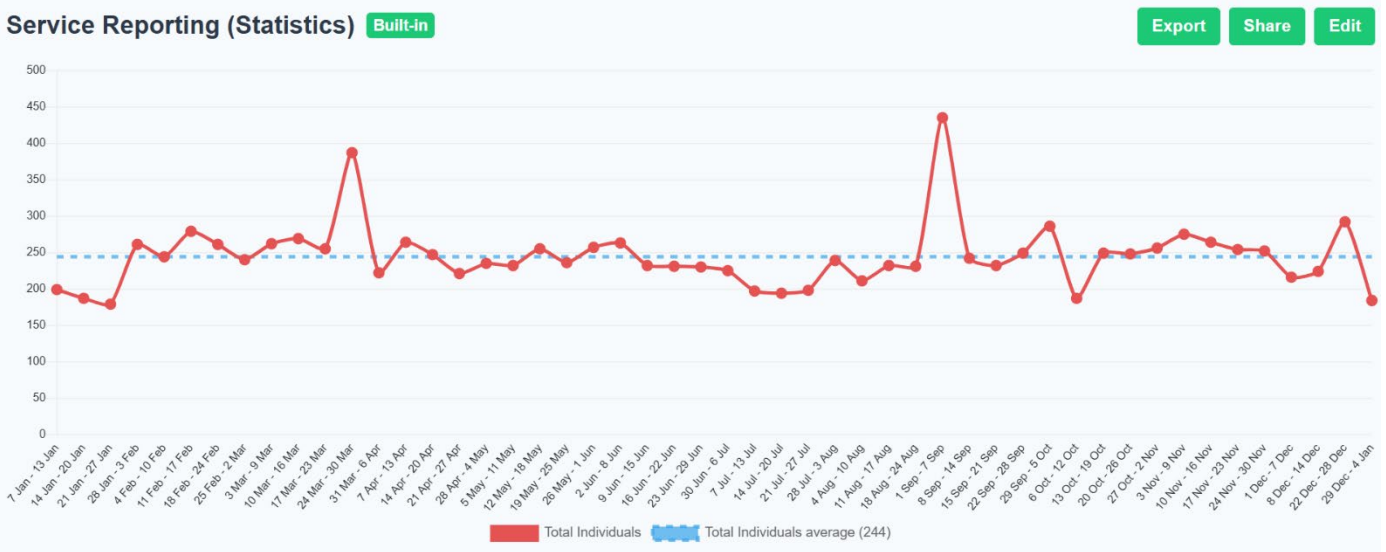
### Establishing & Equipping

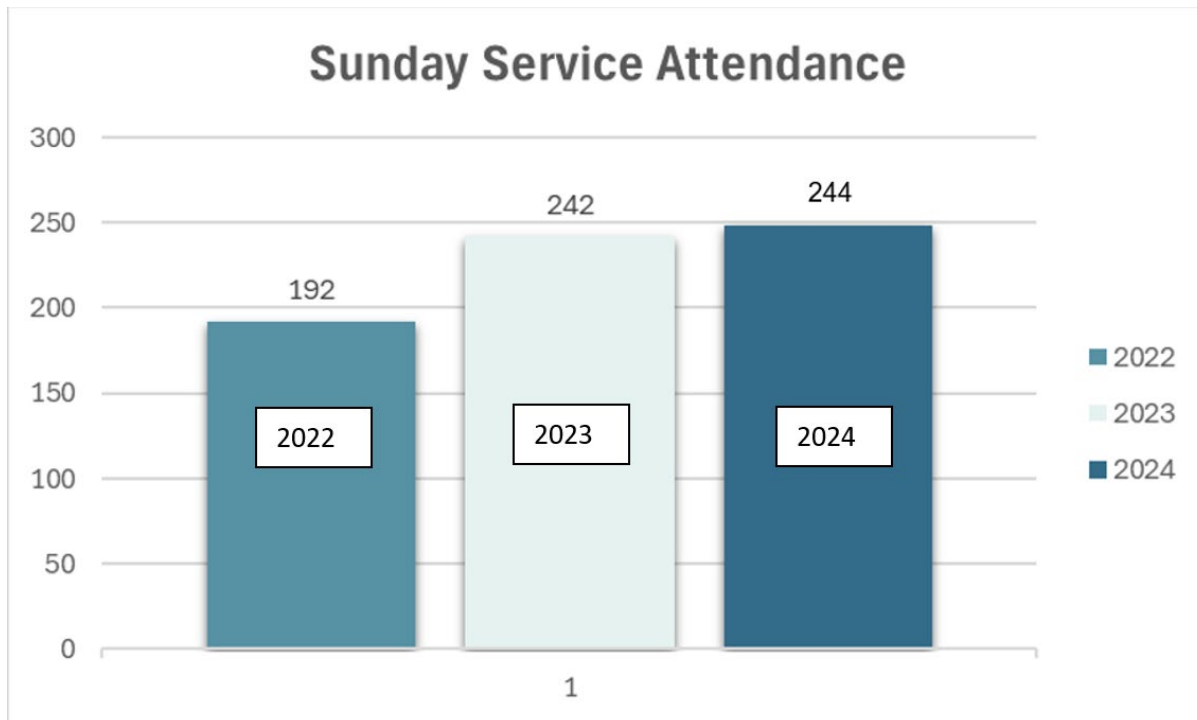
- In September, people from all congregations took time out to travel to Waterslea for our church weekend away. We were blessed as Roger Fitzhardinge taught us from John's gospel.
- The annual Equip women's conference was also a highlight of the year.
- We encourage everyone at church to swim between the flags spiritually speaking – by being part of a community group. Throughout 2024 we continued our regular pattern of meeting twice each term to support and equip our community group leaders.

### Sundays

- Our Sunday services are the main way that we seek to establish believers in the faith through the preaching and teaching of the word of God. During 2024 we preached a lengthy series overviewing the whole Bible, spent time in Luke’s gospel, preached through Jeremiah and 1 Peter as well as a series about what the Bible has to say about Men and Women in church and on Jesus High Priestly prayer in John 17.
- Overall, our church grew slightly during the year – particularly in our morning congregations. All our congregations have welcomed new people and seen them become part of our church.
- Of course, that growth is always offset each year by people leaving our church. Last year – we farewelled a number of long time members and families from each congregation.
- Gathering together to confess our sin, pray, listen to God’s word, hear it taught and to encourage each other – this is core to who we are.

**Sunday Attendance – all congregations - 2024**





### Staffing

Our ministry staff contribute significantly to the health of our church family.

#### Sarah

Earlier this year, Sarah Barber was appointed to a permanent part time position in the role of Children’s Minister. We’ve seen her work with the Kids at our special family Services, Holiday Kids Club and Christmas Eve Kids Service, training leaders and most recently with our Partnering with Parents afternoon. At the AGM last year, I mentioned that my hope and prayer was that we would be able to raise sufficient additional funding such that we can continue to employ her. Thanks be to God, his people have been generous and we have been able to keep our staff team in its existing configuration.

#### Paula

Amy Bosker resigned early in 2024. Paula Taylor commenced in the role and is now working on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. She has been a great help to our team.

#### Thora

Thora Marsh continued her work of overseeing the RAYG youth Ministry and Women's ministry at MHAC. The Connect Events and Outreach Events of our Women's Ministry have been highlights in the last twelve months, with several excellent gospel events and connect events. In addition, Thora also coordinates our Women's Ministry Team, our women community Group Leaders, digital ministry as well as meeting with women one to one for training, discipleship and pastoral care.

### Nich Powell

Over the last twelve months we have blessed to have Nich Powell on the staff team as a Student Minister. Throughout 2024 Nich assisted on a volunteer basis and helped out with the Sunday Kids Program at Hammondville, 6pm congregation and as a community group leader. For this year, Nich will no longer be regularly part of our morning congregations, as his ministry focus has shifted to Friday night RAYG program and discipling young people.

### David

We're all grieved by the cancer diagnosis and leg injury that Dave received earlier this year and are united in praying for a full recovery. Dave has been on leave since his injury in January. I'm pleased to advise that we are able to continue to fund Dave's full pay and entitlements for the foreseeable future.

As you are all aware, Dave has made a significant contribution to our mission and ministry here over recent years. We're now missing his input. In the last twelve months he has been overseeing Community Group Leaders Ministry, Mission Partnership Team, Church Weekend Away, Carols event, Young Adults Ministry as well as taking people through the PTC course. Not to mention his regular pastoral work and preaching.

Plans continue to be developed to partially cover Dave's absence. Discussions are underway with an external trainer for our community group leaders, Jennifer van Holst has taken on leadership of the Mission Partnership Team. Andy Donaldson has significantly increased his involvement with the Young Adult Ministry. Plans are also underway to develop Christian Care Teams for each congregation. These will be an additional source of pastoral ministry and a 'go-to' resource for our church family.



## **The Body of Christ**

The work of the staff team is not to do all the work of mission and ministry. But to equip and encourage, to admonish and discipline and teach and correct such that the body of Christ is equipped for the work of mission and ministry.

What we do as a church family happens because Christ is at work amongst us. Christ's body is built as we, members of his body, exercise the gifts and capacities that God has given in loving service of one another.

With that in mind, thanksgiving is central to any reflection on good things that have happened (Colossians 2:6-7). So, let's be overflowing with thanksgiving for those who have served in mission and ministry in countless ways throughout 2024. For those who have prayed and given and served and sacrificed – all for the glory of Jesus – we thank God for you. Your service is why we're meeting today – because we are a body – the body of Christ.

We particularly give thanks for our staff team, for the wardens who have served us over the last twelve months: Kerrie, Margaret and Paul. Almost an entirely new team of wardens.

Particular tribute to Jeanette who reluctantly had to resign from the role in early 2024. With Adel, we all grieve her loss and express our thanksgiving for her service as Warden, Parish Councillor and Synod Representative as well as Community Group Leader over many years. We give thanks for Parish Council: Terri Cartmer, Ross Cotter, Balu Daniel, Kerrie Oxlade, Yvette Sathiakumar and Jeremy Vickers.

## **Looking ahead for 2025**

In recent years, our Partnership Dinner in November has reviewed our plans for Mission and Ministry over the Coming Year. However, an occasion like the AGM it's worth briefly considering some areas of focus for our church over the coming year

## **What sort of church do we want to be?**

- We're committed to joyfully trusting, following and sharing Jesus.

Our Sunday services, our mid-week ministries all that we do in mission and ministry is aimed at that end. However, it's always important to ask is it possible that we could do be more effective, more fruitful?

### **How are we maturing people in the faith?**

We want to see everyone at MHAC growing in their walk with God – how does that happen? So that people grow in faith, we want to encourage everyone at MHAC to invest in the five means of growth:

1. Attending one Sunday Service regularly
2. Participating in a community group regularly
3. Serving in a ministry regularly
4. Maintaining personal habits of prayer and bible reading
5. Sharing Jesus joyfully as we have opportunity.



We want everyone to feel that they are growing in their knowledge and love of God over the year. Participating in these means of growth is the way we get there.

I want to briefly outline Four focus areas for 2025:

### **Sharing Jesus?**

# Challenge: Hearts for the lost?



God is a missionary God – he sent his Son to seek and save the lost.

We seek to be sharing Jesus through our Connect Events, Gospel Events and Christianity Explored as well as equipping people to be individually sharing Jesus. But the key thing is our hearts.

Key Challenge: hearts for the lost?

We need to keep working at seeing those who attend our connect events / gospel events bridge the gap to regularly attending on Sundays.

## Sunday Ministry Teams

Sunday  
Ministry  
Teams



A change I would like us to trial this year relates to how we are serving on Sundays as a church family. A number of churches have found significant benefits in moving to a more decentralised arrangement of ministry teams serving on Sundays. Rather than a central coordinator arranging all the roles and personnel Sunday by Sunday, ministry teams take responsibility for coordinating the necessary functions that happen each week. You'll hear more about this as the year progresses but I think this is a change that is worth trialling and so want to mention it now.

**Community Group Leaders**

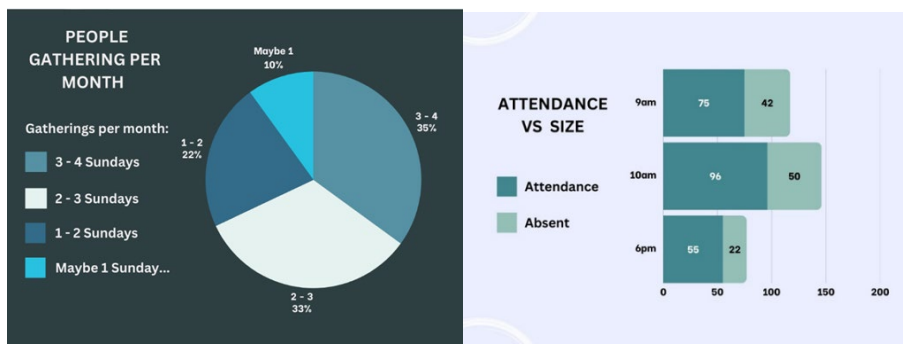
## Community Group Leaders



- How we pastor people
- We need more groups
- We need more leaders

**Sunday Services**

Finally, it's important to say that we want Church to be inspiring – for it to be the most spiritually significant time for you each week.



**Regarding our Sunday attendance**

There are two factors to draw to our attention. First of all – is how regular we are at church

- From this diagram you can see that a bout a third of us are here most weeks, coming three Sundays a month or more.
- However, a large group of us is coming only a bit over half the time. If we could encourage each other to be attending every week, unless there is a good reason not to attend. If you're coming up with a good reason not to come to church every second week...
- Finally, the last third of us is coming less than half the time. This is a problem. When we gather together, Jesus promises us that by his Spirit he is present with us. Christians have always placed a high importance on meeting together: to hear God's word, to pray, to sing, to encourage each other.
- What our current pattern translates to, is that on any given Sunday a significant portion of us is not there. At both morning services – each week – 1/3 of the congregation isn't present. I think we could do better.
- So here's what we're going to do. If you miss three weeks in a row, someone will call you with a pastoral welfare check. If your Sunday attendance for the past term dropped below 50%, you will be called for a pastoral welfare check. This is an opt out system. If you contact one of the pastoral staff in writing that you don't want someone to contact you – we will respect that.
- If you miss church for a week or two, we don't want you to feel scrutinised or have to explain yourself. We want to help prompt people in good habits.

This is what we're focusing on in 2025. Thanks for your partnership.

## **Wardens Report Annual General Meeting 30 March 25**

Before launching into the activities of the past year, I would like to acknowledge the faithful service of Jeanette Habib within our Church Community. Over time, Jeanette held various roles and responsibilities; most recently, last AGM she took on the role of Warden once again, before ill health required that she relinquish the role. Jeanette's servant heart, quiet competence and strong faith is an example to us all.

2024 has been a busy and productive year. The Parish Council met monthly, the Wardens meeting with the Senior Minister took time to find a routine, given the initial vacancy and the change in personnel a few months in. We lost one Councillor (Kathryn Kirk) mid-year due to she and Graham moving to the South Coast. Also, Paula Taylor, Administrative Assistant was recruited to replace Amy Bosker.

A major project this year was the renovation of St Anne's Toilet Block. It took considerable time settling on the most beneficial approach (functional and financial) to upgrade this facility. The failure of a government grant application to replace the block meant looking at alternatives. Thankfully, past prudent financial management meant we had funds to proceed, and renovation was decided the best option. The initial quote was \$35,000, however once work began it was discovered more extensive work on the floor, plumbing and doors was required. Further the pathway around/to the toilets had not been considered in the initial quote and it was decided they needed to be replaced for safety. The final cost was just shy of \$55,000.

The Stained-Glass Window Frame at St Anne's was decaying allowing water to seep into the wall and internally to the building. It needed to be repaired before the further damage occurred. The repair is complete and should future proof this section of the building for considerable time. The gracious donation of a parishioner covered the costs.

Sydney Anglican Property Trust referred information regarding a Government Grant for replacement of Hot Water Systems with energy efficient Heat Pumps. We qualified for this grant and our four hot water systems in the Parish were replaced at no cost to us.

Issues were reported both in St Thomas' Hall and the Ministry Centre with the floor boards at church moving when walked upon. This has been corrected by the removal of faulty piers and/or reinforcement of the piers under both structures.

The long awaited Internet is now available at St Anne's with the installation of Wifi; and a Tap & Go Square was purchased to facilitate easy card/tap payment of monies events eg. Carols, BBQ's, Coffee Cart.

Key Lock boxes have been fitted to Hammondville & Moorebank to allow the leaving of keys for workmen/people needing to access the building when staff or Councillors cannot be present.

General maintenance of church property has been ongoing throughout the year, namely -

- New signs, replacing outdated signs have been fitted on both sites.
- Carpets and Blue Chairs have been cleaned at St Thomas' Church & Ministry Centre,
- Fly screens have been fitted to the Ministry Centre, the interior has been painted and the exterior has been steamed cleaned.
- A Hand Rail has been fitted to the Rectory steps and the faulty Garage door has been replaced.
- Air Conditioning Units on both campus' have been serviced and electrical equipment and cords have been safety tested and tagged.
- Working Bee's have been arranged to manage grounds and building issues over the year.

It would be remiss not to mention the volunteers who volunteer weekly, fortnightly or monthly to keep our buildings and grounds clean, tidy and functional. The energy and enthusiasm of our brothers and sisters who give of their time and skills to ensure our equipment is in working order, the buildings and furniture are clean and in good repair, and the lawns mown and grounds tidy, is nothing short of remarkable. Thank you one and all!

Also thank to the 2024 Parish Council, my fellow Wardens and the Ministry team - a year not without its challenges, though on reflection, all the better for working alongside you all. Praise God for his goodness.