



CREEKSIDE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Creekside Community Church

Handbook

Introduction.

Creekside Community Church is a group of Christians who meet at the junction of Morayfield, Narangba and Burpengary on the outskirts of northern Brisbane. We live as followers of Jesus, and look for opportunities to share His good news with everyone. Our desire is to support and encourage everyone in their personal journey of having faith in Jesus.

Being located on-site with Carmichael College, we have a specific focus on the families who interact with the College and Child Care Centre. We also desire to bring the good news of Jesus to the surrounding suburbs.

The church was established in 2004 as a new church plant from Mueller Community Church in Rothwell. It is associated with the Christian Community Churches of Australia, a national network of like-minded churches. As 'evangelical' Christians, we seek to follow the teachings of the Bible, and recognise the need for each person to establish a personal relationship with God. This is achieved by exercising personal faith in Jesus Christ, who paid the penalty for our sin through His sacrificial death, and gives us new life through His resurrection.

For more information of what we believe and teach from the Bible, please see our 'Statement of Faith' included in this document.

The following information in this booklet is provided to inform visitors and newcomers of the kind of church Creekside Community Church endeavours to be; to give a brief explanation of the Biblical teachings we practice; and explain the types of programs and activities offered to everyone. The booklet also serves as an ongoing reminder to each of us of why the church exists and how we can all work together in building the kingdom of God for His glory!

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Mission.



Here at Creekside our mission is to be...

People helping people discover Jesus and follow Him fearlessly.

This is another way of saying that we are a family of missionaries called to live out our identity in Jesus as His disciples.

Our goal as a church is to lead non-believers and believers alike to discover the transforming power of God's Grace and to be missionaries of that Grace.

One Campus. One Mission

Our campus consists of Creekside Community Church, Creekside Café, Carmichael College and Carmichael Kids and together we are a community of people united by a common vision.

At the heart of the campus is the church. We continue to believe that Creekside should be a church with open hands and an open heart towards a world of broken people that God loves and the activities that occur on the campus exist to serve that end. As a campus we share the mission to help people discover the transforming power of the Gospel.

Our emphasis of 'doing church' is to take very seriously the command and commission of Jesus to primarily 'love God' and love others. In recognising the centrality of worship, edification through teaching and discipleship,

we believe evangelism is a very significant part of being followers of Jesus. Given the large number of families frequenting the campus every day who haven't experienced the freedom from Jesus, our hearts are broken to share the Good News of Jesus with them, necessitating a contemporary, relational style to our services, using understandable language and teaching truth to followers of Jesus as well as people who are not familiar with the Christian faith. Our desire is to present a clear and evident pathway to someone seeking faith in Jesus.

A distinctive of Creekside as a church in partnering with the school, childcare and café is the commitment to campus alignment through a shared mission. We believe that having an integration of all the campus ministries will build better capacity for Kingdom outcomes. The goal of this alignment is to reach unchurched families for Jesus through a range of ministries which include pastoral care, life coaching and community events that help foster social

Ministry Model.

The three areas of our ministry model are:

- 1. Prayer**
- 2. Discover & Worship Jesus on weekends**
- 3. Connect in Community**

1 Prayer.

We acknowledge that our mission is not our own but it is God's great plan to build His kingdom. He has called us to be his messengers and proclaim the good news of Jesus, but its God who makes his church grow. (1 Corinthians 3:7, Zechariah 4:6, Philippians 4:6, Luke 18:1, Acts 12:5) Therefore we believe we need to depend on God for all enabling. We make our requests, pleas and longings known by prayer. At Creekside our prayers consist of praise, joy, passion, recalling God's faithfulness, character and gratitude. We also encourage an honest prayer life, with a God that is near, and not distant. Sometimes, you'll notice that we pray with lament and desperation, calling out to God to hear us in times of despair and trouble. You'll also notice that we persist in prayer and regularly pray for many people who don't yet know Jesus, to come to life in Jesus and follow Him. This is because our greatest joy is to witness people's eternity being transformed by Jesus.

Importantly, we also pray for healing, provision, leading, wisdom, direction and conviction. In all forms of prayer, we boldly make our requests known to our God that has all power and resource at His disposal. We also acknowledge that God is sovereign overall and that His final decision is best. We continually learn that we are not able to do anything apart from depending on His enabling power and Spirit. This means that all our efforts to spread the good news of the Gospel is surrendered to God in dependency on Him who brings the fruit. We humbly seek God in everything we do and draw strength, wisdom and leading from Him.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

Prayer Ministry:

Weekly Prayer meetings - ask a team member for times.

Regular Prayer and Worship Nights

2. Discover & Worship Jesus on weekends.

We are a church that creates engaging and God glorifying services for everyone. In order that we may be shaped by the transforming truth of the Gospel of Grace.

We believe the good news of Jesus is for all. Whether someone is new to church or has been a follower of Jesus for years, the message of Jesus moves everyone to respond. Our Sunday morning services are about hearing, and responding to God's mercy, grace and love. They are a place where both believers and non-believers of all ages feel welcome to come as they are and experience the life-changing message of God's Grace.

Part of the service on Sunday is to gather as the body of Christ 'the church' and Worship. Grace emphasising and God glorying worship is central to the gathering of the Church and is essential to our Sunday services at Creekside. Within these services, we worship God by remembering the gospel through singing, preaching, praying, baptisms and communion. Each presents an opportunity for the church to receive, remember, respond and rejoice in the work of our great God.

It is my judgement, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.

Acts 15:19

Ministry activities.

Sunday Service 10:00am

- A time for the whole family, kids especially catered for
- Contemporary music, engaging program, a community where you belong
- Bible centred teaching that is challenging, encouraging and engaging
- For young Christians, older Christians, or those wanting to know more about Christianity

Alpha Course

Here at Creekside we believe everyone should have the opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith - to ask questions, and share their point of view in an open, friendly environment. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that create a safe space to explore life, faith and meaning. Alpha at Creekside is run regularly on Sunday mornings during the worship service and during the week. It is accompanied by a light meal and childcare provided.



To find out more go to Creekside.org.au/alpha

Family Ministries

Creekside Kidz Sunday 10:00am

- Includes Bible stories, crafts, activities and games
- For children in Pre Kindy to Grade 6



Creekside Youth

- Runs fortnightly on a Friday night throughout school term
- Make friends, explore faith and have a heap of fun
- All welcome from grades 7-12
- See a team member or find us on



3. Connect in Community.

In identifying the tri-unity of God, we recognise that God is communal. Bearing the image of God, we are called to reflect this reality.

Though each Christian has a personal relationship with God, that relationship is not individual or private. The Christian faith is not intended to be lived in isolation. We were made for community—relationship with God and with each other. Living in community with one another involves mutual love, care, consistency and authenticity.

Groups are about living life with others in a small group environment where people can pursue authentic community and growth in their walk with God. Building true authentic community in groups helps facilitate spiritual growth and encourages each other to seek to grow in our intimacy with Jesus by spending time with Him.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Jesus - (John 13:34-35)

Ministry activities.

Groups

If we want to follow Jesus we can't do it alone. Life is better connected and the way we connect at Creekside is through, Community Groups, Men's groups and Women's groups.

- Develop closer relationships with members of the church
- Share with others in your personal journey
- Be supported in prayer and personal encouragement
- Grow in your understanding of the Bible together
- Groups are about connecting together as a family
- Groups are about encouraging one another to be on mission together
- Groups are about discipleship
- These groups gather at various locations and times during the week.

Pastoral Care

Here at Creekside we don't just see ourselves as a 'group of people' but a Family, a Community. God the Father has adopted us as his children and we are united not by blood relations, but by Jesus. We are brothers and sisters in Jesus, and this profoundly shapes our life together.

Part of our role as members of a loving family is to care for each others needs. As part of our Groups ministry we seek to fulfill the pastoral needs of members of groups at a basic level. For those who are not in a group or need further intensive care and prayer our pastoral care team share this role to ensure everyone is cared for in our Church community.

The Gospel is Central.

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

“The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.”

Tim Keller

...of first importance... that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day...

At Creekside we believe that the gospel should be central to everything that we do. We desire to make sure the gospel is preached, prayed, sung, celebrated, taught, applied, lived, and loved. We want to be neither a “legalistic” church, nor a “permissive” church. A legalistic approach may correctly acknowledge the reproach of sin, but does so at the cost of diminishing the power of God’s grace and emphasising performance. Conversely, a “permissive” approach may correctly recognise the power of grace, acceptance and liberty but neglect the reality of sin and the Holy Spirit’s gracious work of conviction and sanctification.

Instead, we believe a Gospel-centred church should be continually

celebrating and enjoying God’s “justification” that was achieved through Jesus - a sovereign act of God whereby he declares righteous the believing sinner. Our works can’t achieve this - it is by God’s grace alone.

The purpose, then, for every activity we put our hand to, should be to

For by GRACE you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

put the spotlight on the Gospel and the amazing hope we have in Jesus. We believe we are all equally undeserving of God’s grace - we are all in need of

the Gospel. Therefore everyone is welcome to be a part of our community to discover Jesus and follow him fearlessly. Jesus said “... it is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.” (Mark 2:17)

Mission Partners.

At present, no formal membership exists for Creekside, however what many churches call membership we like to see this as a Mission partnership. A mission Partner is someone who is committed to the mission that God has called us as believers and as the family of the local church. Essentially a partner is someone who is living out the mission of the Church. They are a fearless follower of Jesus, helping others discover Jesus. We consider partners to be people that are:

1. Disciples of Jesus.
2. Regular attendees with the church family on Sunday worship services
3. Involved in prayer for Creekside and the Church Family
4. Volunteering in some way
5. Directing their tithes and giving to Creekside
6. Accepting pastoral care and accountability from Creekside Pastoral Team and the Leadership.

Multiplication & Leadership Development.

As a Church we desire to see the multiplication of God's Kingdom and his Church grow in our community and beyond. Our Lord Jesus commands us "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." This means multiplication, and multiplication at every level. Multiplying healthy disciples of Jesus, multiplying ministry leaders, multiplying church leaders and ultimately multiplying healthy churches.

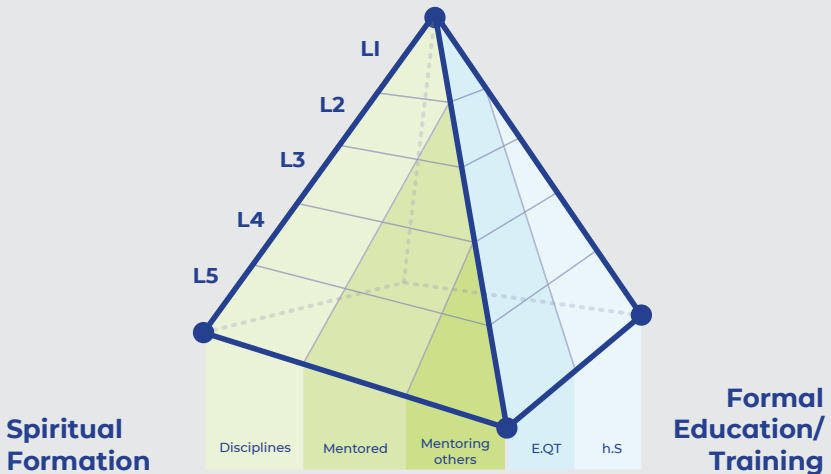
Leadership Education Development Pipeline (LEDP)

As Jesus demonstrated with His disciples and enjoined in the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19,20), the making of disciples who were taught 'everything I have commanded' is a major priority for the Church. God has endowed each believer with spiritual gifts and they are to be developed and used for the building up of His body (Eph. 4:11-13; 1 Cor. 12:4-11; Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Pet. 4:10-11). Not everyone is a gifted leader but there are some with this specific gift (Rom. 12:8) and many others with a measure of ability in leading different environments, including 'leading themselves' as in the L1 category on the following page. We propose to put together a curriculum and training framework which can be modulated to suit the needs of everyone aspiring to grow in their faith and relationship with the Lord, being open as to how He may use them in Kingdom service. It will therefore be useful for those wanting simple discipleship resources on the one hand, but also for those wishing to pursue different levels

LEDP Goals:

- Personal enrichment and discipleship
- Upskilling Christian parents
- Small group leaders e.g. Kids' ministry, Community Groups
- People managers
- Ministry leaders
- Teachers – in school and church
- Church leaders
- Elders
- Pastor
- Church planters
- Cross-cultural ministry
- Marketplace ministry

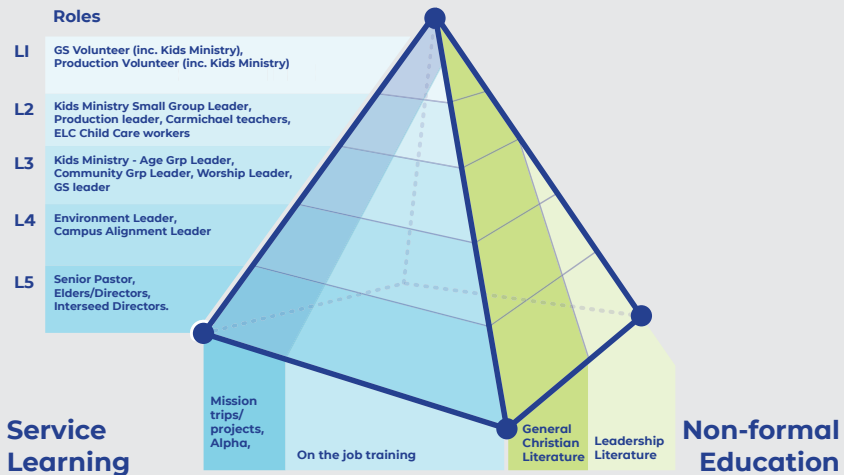
LEDP Appropriation of Components



"The single best way to impact an organisation is to focus on leadership development."

John Maxwell

"You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." - Jesus (Mark 10:42-45)



Leadership levels:

- Level 1 - Leading Self
- Level 2 - Leading Others
- Level 3 - Leading Leaders
- Level 4 - Leading Departments
- Level 5 - Leading Organisations

Statement of faith.

1. The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to all people. The Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testament, was written by human authors under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and is therefore the Word of God, infallible and inerrant in the original writings. As the Word of God, the Bible is the final authority for faith and life. 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21.

2. There is one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existent in three co-equal persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is sovereign over all things. Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; Romans 11:36.

3. The Son of God, Jesus Christ, is truly God and truly man, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, Mary. He lived a perfect and sinless human life, before dying willingly on a Roman cross to pay the penalty for the sin of all people. He was buried, but rose bodily from the dead three days later, triumphant over sin, death and Satan and was exalted to the Father's right hand in Heaven, given all authority and power. Matthew 3:17; I Corinthians 15:3-4; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:15-20.

4. The Holy Spirit's work is to convict people of their sin leading them to repentance and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. He indwells every believer from the time of their salvation, empowering them in every aspect of their individual and church life. Some of His roles in believers include enabling to live a holy life and be a witness for Jesus Christ, the imparting of spiritual gifts for service, and guiding into all truth.

5. People were created in the image of God to exist for eternity in relationship with Him. The first people created walked in perfect fellowship with God, before Satan deceived them into disobeying God, bringing sin into the world and death as a result of sin. All people have sinned and are therefore guilty in God's sight, under His wrath, separated from Him and incapable of saving themselves from the consequences of sin. God's desire is to restore people to a perfect relationship with Himself. Genesis 1:27; Ecclesiastes 3:11; Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 3:23, 6:23.

6. Salvation (being saved from sin and all its effects) is God's free gift of grace available to all people, which cannot be earned through good works or self-improvement. The grounds of salvation are the perfect life, atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. While salvation is a free gift it must be individually received through repentance of sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. Such people are forgiven of all their sin - past, present and future -, are born again by the Holy Spirit and become children of God. Growing conformity to Christ and endurance in the faith will always characterise those who are truly saved. John 1:12; Acts 20:21; Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-10; Colossians 1:22-23; Hebrews 3:6 & 14; 6:11-12; James 2:17; 1 Peter 1:3-5.

7. The Lord Jesus Christ will return in person to gather His people, to show clearly His Kingdom with power and glory and to judge the world. Those who belong to Him will go to be with Him eternally in Heaven, while those who are not His, will receive eternal judgement in a place of torment called hell. Acts 1:11; 17:30-31; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Revelation 20:15, 21:3-4.

8. Satan is a real being who is the enemy of both God and people. He is

the deceiver who led people into sin and the accuser of all believers in Christ, who continues to wage war against God and His creation, both physical and spiritual. Satan and his angels were defeated by Jesus Christ at the cross and are destined for eternal judgement by God in the place of torment. Genesis 3:1-7, 14-15; Job 1:6-12; Matthew 25:41; John 8:44; Ephesians 6:11-12; 1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 20:10.

9. Marriage is the God-ordained covenantal union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life. As bearers of the image of God, the purpose of marriage is to reflect the relational nature of God in the world through covenantal relationship and fruitfulness.

10. Expressing the transformed life as a result of having faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour, it is our responsibility to meet for worship and fellowship, obey the ordinances of baptism and communion, uphold moral directives and ethical values contained in the Bible (as expressed within the context of their personal life, marriage and relationships with others), share the Good News of Jesus to all the world and be active in expressing God's love through social justice.

History of Creekside.

Creekside Community Church (originally known as Morayfield Community Church) started as a church plant from Mueller Community Church in 2004, initiated by Vern and Trish Heazlewood with services held in their home.

Mueller College, a ministry of Mueller Community Church, had bought a large property located on Oakey Flat Road in Morayfield with the vision of developing another education facility there. The plan was for this church plant to be the spiritual resource centre for the new school, Carmichael College. When approval was being sought for the school construction (2007), the then State Government and Moreton Bay Regional Council provided a number of significant obstacles which prevented the plan from proceeding. Meanwhile, Morayfield Community Church's attendance was growing which meant there was a need for larger facilities. A shed in the Heazlewood's backyard was upgraded and used for holding services over the next several years. Again, attendance continued to grow, so in 2011, when the newly built auditorium at the Narangba Valley State School became available for lease, it was secured for Sunday services. Since it was located in the subdivision

of 'Creekside', it was an opportune time to rename the church, "Creekside Community Church".

It was at this time that the Christian charity, Interseed, was set up with the Board comprised of members of the leadership of both Creekside and Mueller Community Churches. The vision for the school was able to be taken up by Interseed which was able to provide the necessary financial, logistic and developmental support that the project required.

In 2014 after a change in State Government, the local Council approved the site for the new school development on Oakey Flat Road. This was a stunning answer to prayer. With excitement, a massive earthmoving operation ensued, literally 'moving a mountain' to prepare the site for construction of Carmichael College and its inaugural functioning in 2015. It was in June that year that Creekside Community Church made the highly anticipated move to the Carmichael College site, using its auditorium and ancillary facilities. This move has truly been a significant step forward in the ongoing life of the church.

Church Affiliation.

Creekside Community Church is associated with a network of churches known as the Christian Community Churches of Australia (CCCA), www.cccaust.org.



The church has its roots in a movement known to many as 'open' Christian Brethren. This movement commenced in the 1830s as a group of Christians desired to reaffirm a biblically-based understanding of church practice and worship as opposed to the formalism and sectarianism which was rife in many of the mainstream churches. In particular, these churches sought to emphasise the unity of the church, offering fellowship to all people who take the name of Christ as their

Lord. Secondly, these churches also emphasised the priesthood of all believers, encouraging all attendees of the church to be actively involved by using their God-given spiritual gifts, with far less dependency on the Pastor to conduct all ministry.

Creekside Community Church, as with all CCCA churches, continues to emphasise these values, and to focus strongly on the centrality of the Bible as one's true guide for life. The need to be involved with global evangelism remains highly significant, and the celebrating of communion remains an important part of the church's activities. As a church, we are fully independent and autonomous from the control of any outside organisation and recognise that Jesus, as Lord, remains the Head of His church and this local church in particular.

Distinctive of Creekside.

Creekside Community Church also has a number of distinctive views or practices which contribute to our style and practice as a church. We ask church members to study our position on these doctrinal and practical issues. We do not require every member of our church to necessarily agree 100% with every stance we take on controversial issues. However, we do ask that members do not deliberately seek to introduce teaching or practices within the church which are at variance with the perspectives we take as described below. As Augustine, one of the early church fathers, reputedly said,

**“In essentials unity,
in non-essentials
liberty but in all
things charity”**

Augustine

Importance of the Bible

We believe that the Scriptures are the final authority for Christian living, and also they are a vital ingredient for Christian growth, as God renews our minds through his Word. For this reason we aim to teach the scriptures regularly and systematically in various ways in our fellowship (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The Lord's Supper (Communion)

The Lord's Supper represents the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. We do this as a reminder of our unity with Jesus, thanksgiving for what he has done, the sign of the new covenant, and an anticipation of His coming again. We seek to keep the meaning of the Lord's death and resurrection fresh in our minds by a regular celebration of the Lord's Supper, as He expressed His desire for us in Luke 22:19-20, and in keeping with the example given in Acts 20:7. This is celebrated in the context of our Sunday church service, but also may from time to time be celebrated in informal contexts in the home (Acts 2:46). We welcome all to participate with us in this who have trusted Christ to be their Saviour and Lord, and are following Him in sincerity. Those who do not know the Lord or who are not living in a right relationship with the Lord should refrain from participating (1 Cor. 11:27-30). Parents should ensure that only children who have a sincere faith in Christ participate, and that this is done with reverence. It is our normal practice that people should begin participation

in the communion after they have been baptised, as their first public act of faith.

Church Autonomy

We are an independent and autonomous church. This means we have no allegiance to an institutionalised church hierarchy who governs our practices and activities. We believe we are answerable to the Lord Himself, our Head, as He has made Himself known to us through the scriptures, rather than any human institution. However, it is worth noting that we have links to the network of churches associated with the Christian Community Churches of Australia (see www.cccaust.org) and that many of our perspectives reflect this heritage.

Church Government

We seek to maintain a strong emphasis on the truth of the "priesthood of all believers". This means firstly that Christ Himself is our priest, senior pastor, and archbishop. Secondly, it means that all Christians are called to be ministers and priests in the church, in the different ways God has gifted u. However, the Bible also describes a human leadership within the church in which God raises a group of elders to oversee the church. The Bible also describes leaders who are financially supported to be able to devote their time to the leadership and ministry of the church. Deacons (and deaconesses) were also recognised as exemplary members who served in practical ways.

Baptism

Our church practises baptism for Christians only (Mt 28:19), and by the means of immersion. Water baptism is the outward symbol of the baptism of the Spirit, which at the point of conversion, places the believer within the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:13). Though it does not confer forgiveness of sin or reception of the Spirit, water baptism expresses outwardly and visibly the confession of faith the believer has in Christ. Furthermore, it is the symbol of Christ's death, burial and resurrection with which the believer identifies himself with Christ in these experiences (Rom 6:3-5). If you wish to be baptised to symbolise your salvation and identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Rom 6:2-3), please speak to one of the leaders who can discuss this with you.

Gender Roles

Men and women are created by God and stand in Christ with equality of personhood and importance (Gen 1:27, Gal 3:28). The Bible also teaches that God has created us to live within ordered relationships, where we are equally accountable to God for our common roles in service to Him. Man has been given the specific responsibility for headship and leadership in marriage and the church (Ephesians 5:22-33, 1 Cor 11:3). Men and women both have spiritual gifts and have important roles to play in the speaking of God's Word to one another in appropriate contexts (Acts 2:17, 1 Corinthians 11:5). Whereas women have broad scope for ministry in general, we believe from scripture that in the local church, men should be functioning as elders (overseers)

and teachers of the church at large (1 Timothy 2:12-14). However, this does not preclude their functioning in all other areas including public prayer, music, song/worship leading, leading of and involvement in sectional groups, e.g. women's and children's activities, discipleship groups, and specific ministries such as counseling. We greatly value the important part that women play in the Christian church worldwide (including missions) and in our church in particular.

Fellowship

We believe that all true Christians belong to the body of Christ, the Church, whatever the social class, age, nationality or denominational background (1 Cor 12:13, Col 3:11), and so we are happy to welcome all such people into our local expression of the church in Christ's name. The only reason for exclusion from Christian fellowship is because of serious moral rebellion inconsistent with the Christian life (1 Cor 5:11) or serious doctrinal error on basic doctrines (2 John 7-11). Differences of opinion on secondary doctrinal matters (matters not essential to salvation) can be expected to exist within the church; these should never be an opportunity for a break in fellowship but rather for greater learning from one another, as we all strive to come to a more accurate understanding of the Word of God together. Fellowship includes more than just a welcome to church meetings or participation in the Lord's Supper; it extends to the sharing of our time, hospitality, finances and whole lives with one another, especially in Community Groups where we encourage as many as possible to participate.

Church Government

We seek to maintain a strong emphasis on the truth of the “priesthood of all believers”. This means firstly that Christ Himself is our priest, senior pastor, and archbishop. Secondly, it means that all Christians are called to be ministers and priests in the church, in the different ways God has gifted us differently. However, the Bible also describes a human leadership within the church in which God raises a group of elders to lead the church. The Bible also describes leaders who are financially supported to be able to devote their time to the leadership and ministry of the church. Deacons (and deaconesses) were also recognized as exemplary members who served in practical ways.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is fully God and is a person, not a force or influence. God gives the Holy Spirit to all true believers, and equips them with spiritual gifts for the upbuilding of the church. While we are not a charismatic church, we believe in our full dependence on the work of the Holy Spirit to bring His power amongst us to extend God’s kingdom. Individuals are free to practice what they believe in regards to spiritual gifts in their personal lives, but we ask in regards to our public church services that people submit their exercise of spiritual gifts to the discernment of the leadership of the church.

Difficult Doctrinal Issues

Within the Christian church, there are numerous topics on which Christians differ in their interpretation and application of the scriptures, such as the relationship between God’s election and human free will, or the understanding of the sequence of events in relation to the return of Christ. Traditionally, we have held a pre-tribulation, pre-millennial view of eschatology which is helpful to have as a framework but it is not a dogmatic issue. We believe that it is possible for different people with different convictions on difficult issues such as these to fellowship harmoniously together within our church, provided their views are in broad agreement with our general statement of faith found earlier in this booklet. We ask people to develop convictions on difficult topics such as these, based on careful study of the scriptures and of the views of other Christian leaders. However, we ask people to refrain from promoting disunity on topics such as these, and to recognise that these are secondary doctrinal matters rather than essentials of the faith.

Our Team.

Shane Ginn is our interim Lead Pastor. Contact mobile: 0448 774 800

Tim Baird is the Coordinator for groups, Pastoral Care and next steps (discipleship)
Contact mobile: 0488 711 488

Dan Moller Prayer Leader
Contact mobile: 0415 340 736

Rhonda Crump Creekside Kidz Leader
Contact mobile: 0404 846 184

Laura Heazlewood Interim Creekside Youth Coordinator
Contact mobile: 0404 687 605

Shania Ginn Worship Co-ordinator
Contact mobile: 0452 262 898

Mel Sims Events & Creative Coordinator
Contact mobile: 0422 269 249

Nicole Annetts Administrator & Accounts
Contact number: 07 5431 1219

Elders.

Shane Ginn, has been working in the church since its early days coordinating the services, and connecting people in with the church. He is married to Jeanene, and they have 6 children.

Simon Heazlewood, owns a building company, is married to Laura, and has 3 children. He is passionate about extending the kingdom of God through representing Jesus in the local community and providing assistance to overseas missions.

Tim Baird, working in branding and marketing, is married to Candy and has 3 children. With a Diploma of Ministry, he has a passion for the gospel to be

known and seeks to serve the Lord in pastoral leadership.

David Crump, is an engineer and is married to Rhonda. They have 3 children and together they are eager to serve in the Children's ministry.

Dan Moller, is an engineer and project manager. He is married to Lilly and they have 4 children. He also has a servant heart and is passionate about church leadership and mission.

Creekside Board.

For legal purposes, Creekside Community Church is incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee and is a not-for-profit entity registered with the ACNC. Currently, the Board of Directors is comprised of **Shane Ginn, Simon Heazlewood, Toni Hilton and Margot Pinel**. If you would like to read the constitution it can be obtained from the Church Office.

Selection of Elders.

It is appreciated that the local church is a spiritual work and it is God who raises up a leadership who are gifted for such. These ones will also be already functioning as respected leaders before being formally recognised. It is therefore a functional role, not one of status, employing a servant attitude, as Jesus demonstrated. "Christlikeness" is therefore a pre-eminent characteristic of one who is a Christian leader. Our church follows an eldership model of church government in which the final authority for decisions made within the church lie with the church leadership, rather than a congregational model which relies on congregational voting. However, we are keen to encourage a high degree of ownership and input from all members of our church. Prospective and ongoing church leaders should:

- Have the confidence of the current leadership team
- Be recognised as leaders by the majority of the congregation
- Be living personal lives of unquestioned integrity, in line with the standards set for church leaders in passages such as 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9
- Be active in Christian ministry within the church.
- Be in agreement with or at least respectful towards and supportive of the distinctive perspectives of our church as outlined in this handbook.

The task of appointment of new elders is initiated by the Elder Selection Committee, and, in collaboration with the Eldership and feedback from the church members, oversee this process as required from time to time.

Contact us.

This booklet has been designed to help you understand the Mission of Creekside and the basics of our church life, convictions and practices. We understand that you may have many more questions, so feel free to contact us and discuss anything found in this booklet in more detail.

It is our prayer that God would do great things amongst us for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ and the spread of His kingdom. We invite you to partner with us in the great calling and privilege which is ours to serve Him together.

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CREEKSIDE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

creekside.org.au