



Communities

Holland Park
855 Logan Rd
Holland Park West

Mt Gravatt
Cnr Springwood &
Hicks Streets
Mt Gravatt

Tarragindi
24 Pope Street
Tarragindi

Yeronga
58 Kadumba St
Yeronga

Rev David Fender's Message

At our congregational meeting on Sunday 23 May we started to talk about whether we should remain a multisite congregation or come together on one site. Right from the beginning I want to stress that there is any preconceived outcome that we are aiming for. At the same time I also want to stress that there is no right style or size for a local congregation. I will be very clear and up front in that what I seek for our congregation is a congregation that is healthy, vibrant and missionally engaged in making disciples who make disciples. Whether we are a church that meets on one or more sites, whether we have large or small gatherings, is all a determination of how we best pursue our goal. There is no objectively best position, it is a matter of context.

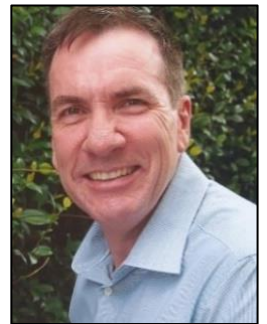
Thank you for the comments that you shared at our meeting. Below is a summary of the responses received.

Uplifting experience

- Fulfilling worship
- Good music
- Attractional
- It's contagious when we're together
- Concern about offering variety in styles of worship and theology

People

- More people to meet and to know
- A greater diversity of people in ages and interests to help new people connect with
- Greater pool of people to serve
- Help people feel they belong
- Fear that older people may be precluded from attending a new site because of travel distances (comment made repeatedly)



Economies of scale

- Save money through reducing some duplications
- Pool resources

Leadership

- Leadership better concentrated on one site, (need for less ministers)
- Less work for ministry team
- Ministerial staff get to know people and vice versa
- Being on one site will help guard against burnout with the ministry team

Ministry activities

- Some outreach is suburb based, eg Yeronga Men's shed
- Hope and possibility of reaching those in the community in other ways. Eg soup kitchen
- New activities made available to people
- Building don't matter. Spirit does
- Multisite allows us to have distinct programmes at each site

Travel

- Travel times will be greater (comment made repeatedly)
- Greater travel times may preclude older members (comment made repeatedly)

Building size

- Current buildings aren't big enough to allow for growth
- Car parking
- Current buildings aren't big enough to house all our current activities

Local neighbourhood connections

- Lose contact and visibility within our local suburbs (comment made repeatedly)
- This may affect our ability to continue some outreach activities
- Being on one site will limit our geographical reach
- Multiple sites are better situated for serving the local communities of those suburbs

Style

- Are we a church that prefers smaller gatherings for worship?
- People can become relationally lost in a big congregation
- Higher turnover of members in a large church

There were 2 additional comments made that I wish to respond to. The first was a question "is closure a sign of failure?" Whether closure is a sign of failure depends for me on the intention behind any closure. Closure is only a failure if it comes about because we did not choose or want to close. For instance, if we were not able to maintain a viable community on that site. However, if we chose to close a site because of God filled plans for a future, then it would not be a failure. As we have said throughout our amalgamation journey, we have now the capacity to choose and act to shape our preferred future.

The second comment encouraged us to see good growth in at least one location prior to any big changes being made. Underlying this comment is a great deal of wisdom. The greatest challenge that lies before Southside is to see growth. We know that this has not been happening in recent years. To continue doing the same things, in either the same location or a new location, will only achieve the same results. Our priority must be to find relevant ways to share the good news of Jesus so that we see the realisation of our vision of More People living and loving like Jesus.

Going forward from here our church council will discuss these results and plan for the ways we all as a congregation can be involved in planning our future.

Grace and peace

David Fender

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Church Council update

The church council met on Thursday 27 May. We approved a ministry strategy for Southside. This charts a journey of faith for a person through the stages of meeting, making and mobilising. Along the journey we identify 6 catalytic moments that can lead people deeper into their journey of faith. Implementing this strategy will help us align our current and new activities so that we can have the best impact for achieving our vision of seeing More people, living and loving like Jesus.

The church council also received reports from our Worship Ministry Team and Mission Experiment Group.

Events

Men's Breakfast

Join us at Southside UC @ Mt Gravatt, on Saturday, 19th June to hear

from Richard Moors on the topic of:

'Our young people need us all'.

As a Children, Youth and Families Pastor, Richard is ideally placed to inform us of the many ways that we can encourage our young folk to follow Christ.

Richard is married to Kylie and is the father of Oliver. He enjoys doing cross stitch (especially when he finishes a project) and reading (working through his 'Doctor Who' books at the moment). He enjoys listening to U2 and Pink Floyd... and imagining playing bass guitar with them. Richard has recently passed the milestone of 20 years in paid ministry, most of which has been working with young people.

Enjoy good food and fellowship in a friendly atmosphere from 7.15 for 7.30am. A \$5 donation to cover costs is appreciated.

For catering purposes please register online by Thursday, 17th via <https://southsideuc.ucareapp.com/forms/174/embed> or via phone to SSUC office 38487093 or Dick Copland 0409614101.

Women's Morning Tea

Please join us at Southside UC @Mt Gravatt on Saturday, July 3rd to hear

from Di Perkins on the topic of:

'Our Footsteps are Directed'.

Di and Bill Perkins now live in Brisbane, though they spent 25 wonderful years in NorthWest Queensland. Studying externally from UQ, Di began to write, an occupation that has become a passion. A series of events occurred in 1988 that Di could only determine to be miraculous. The cumulative effect of many "what ifs", convinced Di that Our Footsteps are Directed. Join her on this amazing journey

Enjoy a lovely morning tea, but most importantly fellowship, in a friendly atmosphere from **9.30am for 10.00am start**. A small donation to cover costs would be appreciated.

For catering purposes please register online by **Thursday, July 1st** via <https://southsideuc.ucareapp.com/forms/204/embed> or via phone to SSUC office 38487093 or Viv Valentine 0408 789 115

Worship

Rev David Fender – Worship Minister
worship@ssuc.org.au

At the end of 2020 we said that we would review our current worship services at Easter this year. Some unexpected events have had to put this back, but we now want to share our thoughts on our worship services.

When we next meet for morning tea (6 June at Mt Gravatt, Tarragindi and Yeronga), 13 June at Holland Park, we're invited to share comments with each other about 3 questions focussing on our worship services.

- What's working well?
- What's not working as well?
- What are we missing?

You are always welcome to email or phone me to provide your feedback, especially if you're not able to be there on the 6th or 13th.

There is already some mixed feedback on our practice of rotating preachers. Some people love the variety, others find it difficult with a different preacher each week. 6 June begins a new 3 month preaching roster. For this roster, we will have the same preacher for 2 weeks in a row at each of our morning services. This will still allow our ministers to be rotated, but also give some continuity.

David Fender

Worship Services

Date	30th May	6th June (HC)	13th June
Mt Gravatt 8.30am	Esteban Lievano	David Fender	David Fender
Tarragindi 8.30am	Jock Dunbar	Esteban Lievano	Jock Dunbar
Online 9 am	Esteban Lievano	David Fender	Jock Dunbar
Holland Park 10.00am	Esteban Lievano	David Fender	David Fender
Yeronga 10.00am	Jock Dunbar	Esteban Lievano	Jock Dunbar
MT Gravatt 5 pm	Jock Dunbar	Esteban Lievano	David Fender
Bible Reading	John 3:1-17	1 Cor 12:1-11	1 Cor 13:1-13

Community Announcement

If you have an announcement that is specific to your community that you would like announced on Sunday as part of the worship service, please contact your Community Minister and they will be able to assist you. Alternatively you may like to contact the church office on 3848 7093 or hello@ssuc.org.au.

Outreach

Rev Esteban Lievano – Outreach Minister
outreach@ssuc.org.au

Op Shop

This year, members of our congregation have been actively working to develop a Southside Op Shop. We thank them for the work that they have done on our behalf and are excited that their planning is almost coming to fruition.

The Op Shop is one of the missional possibilities that are only possible because we have come together as Southside. None of our 4 previous congregations had the missional, people, property or financial capacities to take on something like this. But in our unity there is the

The church council has approved a management committee consisting of Paul McDonald (Chair), Dave Allen, Craig Gibson, David Grant, Elisabet Grant, Esteban Liévano, Meli Liévano, Karen Mersiades, and Dorothy Smith.

The mission of the proposed op shop will be:

To create a space to engage local community with the mission of Southside and the message of Christ.

The steering committee sees the potential for an Op Shop Plus. Certainly, a place where items are sold. But the plus sees a connecting point for:

- Customers to come and participate in the programs that we currently run (SAGE, 3Fs, youth and children's groups and English language classes) and others that we might develop based on identified needs eg, prayer, training or counselling)
- Developing partnerships with other community groups such as local schools, QCA and the Mt Gravatt community centre.

Some of the practicalities of the Op Shop are:

- The shop will operate from the Hall at SSUC Holland Park which will require a shop fit with an appropriate space for community interaction in the form of a café/cafeteria. This will include a POS system, racks and bookshelves for Op Shop items and possibly a coffee machine.
- Training for volunteers will be crucial to the day-to-day operations of the Op Shop. Craig Gibson is using his experience at the Salvation Army to generate Position Descriptions for a Centre Manager and Volunteers, that will take into account a code of conduct and emphasis on community engagement.
- David and Elisabet Grant are looking into possible engagement with training programmes for community equipping and through the Dept. of Education. These may form new avenues for volunteer acquisition and retention.
- The proposed opening date is 1 July 2021

The Steering Committee foresees this as a lucrative, missional endeavour for SSUC, but one that will require significant volunteer engagement and management. This will also be an ongoing project in the life of SSUC and one that is potentially reproduceable across our SSUC Region.

How can you be involved?

1. Pray for all that's involved in establishing the Op Shop. Pray also that this will not be merely a transactional encounter. Seek God's inspiration as to how we may meet people on a deeper spiritual level and journey with them.
2. Volunteer to serve as part of the Op Shop operations, either in the shop, in the sorting room
3. Donate money to assist with the set-up costs. Donations can be made through our website or by contacting the church office.
4. Attend the working bee at Holland Park on 12 June anytime from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm
5. Donate your unwanted items.
6. Tell your family and friends about it and encourage them to come and buy.

Op Shop Working Bee

We are so excited about all the work that the Op Shop Steering Committee has done to get the space at Holland Park ready for our setting up the Op Shop.

We have done much of the logistical and behind the scenes work to establish the Op Shop and we are hoping to get it set up to open in late July.

There is still much work that needs to be done in the hall at Holland Park so we are calling for a Working Bee - 7:30 am to 3:30 pm, Saturday June 12.

You are welcome to drop in for an hour, to do a specific job or for the whole day. Free Sausage Sizzle at 12:00.

To register, please visit this [link](#) - or you can let us know via [email](#) - or contact me at the number below or Paul MacDonald on 0422 998 772.

Rev. Esteban Liévano

Spiritual Growth

Rev Jock Dunbar – Spiritual Growth Minister
spiritual.growth@ssuc.org.au

Tarragindi Tuesday Home Group Vacancies

An opportunity for two people, (a couple or two single people) to join the TARRAGINDI TUESDAY EVENING HOME GROUP.

The Group meets at the home of Rev. Harold and Mrs Cynthia Kilah on the 2nd and fourth Tuesday Evenings of the month at 7.30pm.

A new program based on the Study of a Book of the Bible will commence on Tuesday 8th June

Characteristics of the Group may be described as:-

- a. A commitment to the study of the Bible and associated topics;
- b. Mutual Pastoral and prayerful support of its members;
- c. Opportunities for fellowship activities such supper, and Dinner on the 5th Tuesday Night of a Month (as they occur).

For further information contact Rev. Harold Kilah on 33929431 or mobile 0409111956 or email haroldkilah@bigpond.com

Children Youth and Families

Ps Richard Moors – Children Youth and Families Pastor
cyf@ssuc.org.au

Fun in the Sun Days

Will take place on June 28-29 this year. You can register now one, go to the CYF page on our website. Take a flyer and give it to someone you know.

Sunday School need

We are still in need of a teacher for Sunday School at Mount Gravatt on the 20th of June. If you could step in for this please contact Richard. It is a group of about 5 children.

Wellers Hill State School Chaplain needs help

Robyn will be holding Chappy week on the last week of term 2 this year. A great chance to raise money and the profile of the chaplain in the school. She will be holding a morning tea for the staff on Monday 21st of June. If you can help to provide some yummy morning tea, and or help serve please contact Richard or you can contact Robyn at robynm@chappy.org.au

Here2Stay

Just a reminder that we are trying to build our ministry with young people around ideas from Here2Stay. Their 2 foundational pillars are: 1) Family Household Nurture. 2)Generational Connections. Their 8 formational pillars are: 1) Serve in Mission. 2) God's Big Story. 3) Encounters with Jesus. 4) Respond with Compassion. 5)Positive Peer Community. 6) Peak Experiences. 7) Mentoring and Coaching. 8)Rites of passage. We will start to put things around to remind ourselves of these and unpack them more in the coming months.

Resources

Rachel Manton - Administrator
admin@ssuc.org.au

Office Hours

The church office is located at 58 Kadumba Street, Yeronga.
Office hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm

Giving

Thank you for your ongoing financial contribution to our congregation. As we spend longer in lock down people are discovering alternative ways to give their offerings. These include:

- Setting up electronic funds transfers (EFT) (or asking their children to do so).
Our bank account details are
Name: Southside Uniting Church
BSB: 014-202
Account: 4736-88757
- Posting a cheque to the church office at 58 Kadumba street, Yeronga Qld 4104
- Banking the money direct through a bank branch
- Asking the person who delivers the weekly worship materials to return with your offering.

We are now able to offer giving of tithes and offerings via credit card. There are two ways that you can do this:

1. Click on this link
[https://southsideuc.ucareapp.com/payments/embed/1?type=Offering&title=SSUC Credit%20Card%20Giving.&iframe=true](https://southsideuc.ucareapp.com/payments/embed/1?type=Offering&title=SSUC%20Credit%20Card%20Giving.&iframe=true) and complete the details.
2. Phone the church office on 3848 7093 and provide your credit card details over the phone.

Notices

For notices to be included in this newsletter please email notices@ssuc.org.au or phone the office on 3848 7093. The next newsletter will be issued on 13th June 2021. Please have notices in by 9am Thursday 10th June.

Contact Us:

General Enquiries

hello@ssuc.org.au // 07 3848 7093 // 58 Kadumba st, Yeronga
for notices notices@ssuc.org.au

Ministry Team:

Rev David Fender

Lead Minister and Minister for Worship

david.fender@ssuc.org.au // 0413 314 995

Day off on Friday

Rev Jock Dunbar

Minister for New Missions and Spiritual Growth

jock.dunbar@ssuc.org.au // 0410 400 940

Day off on Friday

Rev Esteban Liévano

Minister for Outreach and Pastoral Care

esteban.lievano@ssuc.org.au // 0407 731 950

Day off on Monday

Ps Richard Moors

Children, Youth and Families Pastor

richard.moors@ssuc.org.au // 0408 446 281

Day off on Monday

Rachel Manton

Administrator

rachel.manton@ssuc.org.au // 0427 257 920

Day off on Saturday and Sunday

Church Council:

Chair

Paul McDonald

chair@ssuc.org.au // 0422 998 772

Treasurer

Dave Allen

treasurer@ssuc.org.au // 0407 742 555

Secretary

Gaye Pitman

secretary@ssuc.org.au // 0409 893 392