->WELCOME

TO ST. GEORGE'S HURSTVILLE

Where you belong



Welcome

We're glad that you've been coming to St George's.

Joining a church can be a big and difficult decision. We have produced this booklet to help your decision on whether you want to make our church your church.

We hope to introduce you to our church, its history and mission, things that are important to us, and what's different about us.

Please feel free to ask any questions you have. It's a real joy for us having you here.

Your servant,

Brian Tung (Senior Pastor)





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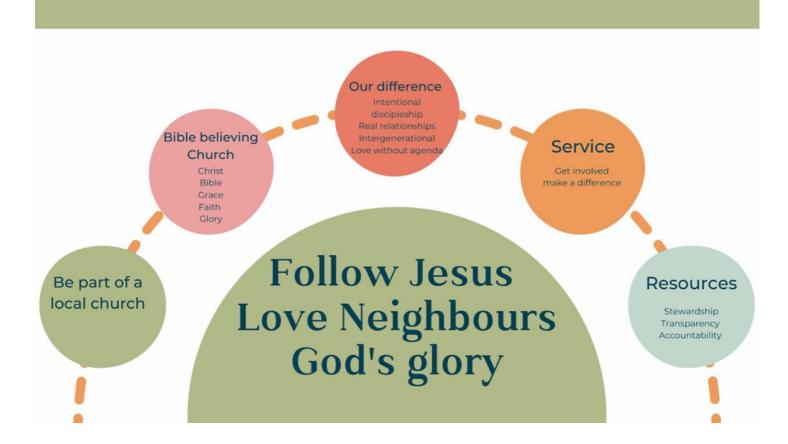
Welcome Booklet

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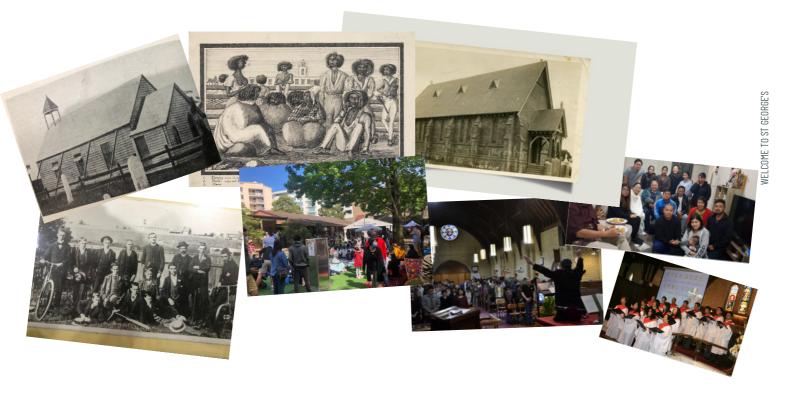
IN BRIEF





The story behind

ST. GEORGE'S



Sir Isaac Newton once remarked in a letter to his rival Robert Hooke,
"If I have seen a little further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants."

The current ministry of St George's have built on the foundations laid by others. Under God, we have the responsibility and privilege to use this foundation built by others sacrifice, faithfulness to continue the future and the mission that God has called us to. Some highlights from the past:

- Land under the stewardship of the Biddegal clan of the Eora nation.
- 1865 first service service on the site.
- 1889 the first portion of present building.
- 1900 Sunday school had 16 teachers, 282 students increasing to 350 in 1901. By 1906-1907 there were 700 students in Hurstville and Mortdale churches.

- St George's has been part of God's mission in the world from early days. Jack & Florence Shell farom the church served in Tanganyika, East African in the 1940s-1950s
- 1995 Chinese ministry started.
- 2003 Chinese ministry splits into Cantonese and Mandarin.
- 2007 a second English service started.
- 2019 partnership with New Life Nepalese Church.
- 2022 St George's is now a family of congregations with 500 family members

OUR MISSION

- MAKE DISCIPLE OF THE NATIONS
- LOVE OUR NEIGHBOURS AS OURSELVES
- TO THE GLORY OF GOD

God has a mission that He has called St George's to be part of.

This mission is not unique to St George's. We share this mission with all Bible believing churches. We believe that 3 statements best summarise the mission of a church:

- Make disciples of the nations (Matthew 28:16-20)
- Love our neighbours as ourselves (Mark 12:30-31)
- To the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1)

Everything that happens at St George's ought to contribute to this mission.

HE IS WORTHY





CHURCH IS IMPORTANT

The Bible uses different metaphors to describe church:

- The Body of Christ (Ephesians 1:23; 2:16;
 4:13; 5:30; 1 Corinthians 12:27)
- Temple of God (Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:9-10)
- Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-23; Revelation 21)
- Flock of Jesus (Acts 20:28'1 Peter 5)
- Household/Family of God (1 Timothy 3:15)

GOD WANTS YOU TO BE PART OF A LOCAL CHURCH

(1 Corinthians 5; 2 Corinthians 2; 1 Timothy 3&5; Titus 1)

For the sake of the Church
For the sake of weaker Christians
For the sake of pastors and leaders
For the sake of your Christian life
For the sake of new people at church
For the sake of not-yet-Christians
For God's glory

St George's is one of the local churches in the Hurstville area.

Be part of A LOCAL CHURCH



what we have

IN COMMON

with other churches

St George's is a **Bible believing church**. A more technical way of putting it is: we are a *Protestant Reformed Evangelical* Church in the *Anglican* tradition.



BIBLE ALONE

We believe that we can know God through the Bible because He has chosen to speak to us through the Bible. This means that everything we do at St George's has to do with the Bible.



JESUS ALONE



GRACE ALONE

We believe that church (and life in general) is about Jesus.

We believe that the good life is a life with God. And that we can do nothing to have this life. This life is a gift from God.



FAITH ALONE



GOD'S GLORY ALONE

We believe that we receive the gift of life from God by faith in Jesus.

We believe that God's glory is the meaning and purpose of life. And therefore everything we do at St George's.



REV. BRIAN TUNG

Senior pastor

Responsible for leading the staff, the parish council, the vision, the English and Cantonese congregations.

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Church executive administration, finance, compliance, I.T., property maintenance and building projects

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OUR STAFF





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OUR STAFF





DARREN CHAN

Warden



MARY LAW

Warden



RAYMOND KWOK

Warden

OUR WARDENS



DIFFERENT

- INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP
- REAL RELATIONSHIPS
- INTER-GENERTAIONAL
- LOVE WITHOUT AGENDA

We are currently working on a few things. These are big and deep things - culture and values (and not just programs and ministries). These things reflect who God has made us to be and where God has placed us. As a result, these may be the things that make St George's different. We are not there yet. But we have started and we are on the way to make these things integral to who we are. In time, God may call us to work on other things.



INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

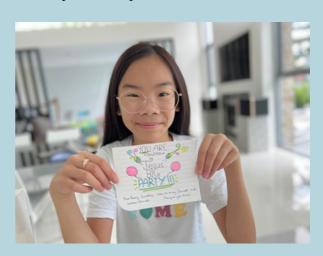
AND HE SAID TO ALL, "IF ANYONE WOULD COME AFTER ME, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS DAILY AND FOLLOW ME. FOR WHOEVER WOULD SAVE HIS LIFE WILL LOSE IT, BUT WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE WILL SAVE IT. (LUKE 9:23-24)

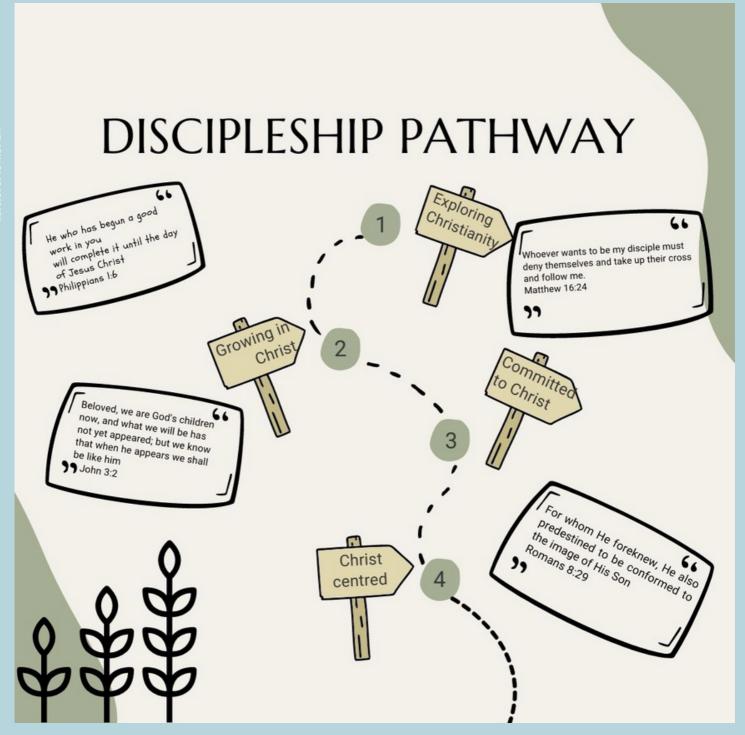
True life is a life with Jesus. Life with Jesus is a lifelong journey. It begins with taking first steps of trusting in Jesus as saviour and lord through his Gospel. It continues with growing commitment to him towards making Jesus everything in life. It ends with we finally meeting him face to face.

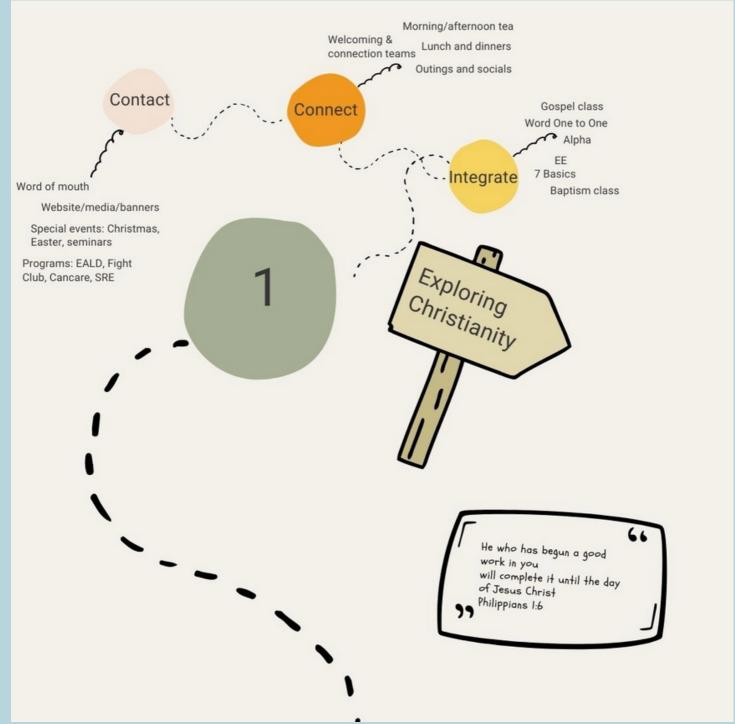
We believe that church and our discipleship is all about Jesus.

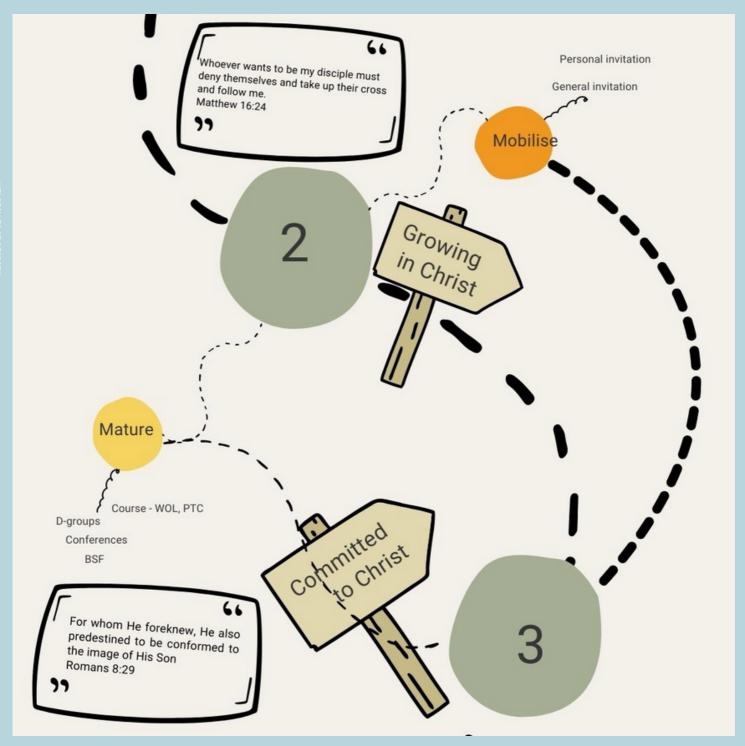
We believe that this relationship comes into being and grows through the Bible.

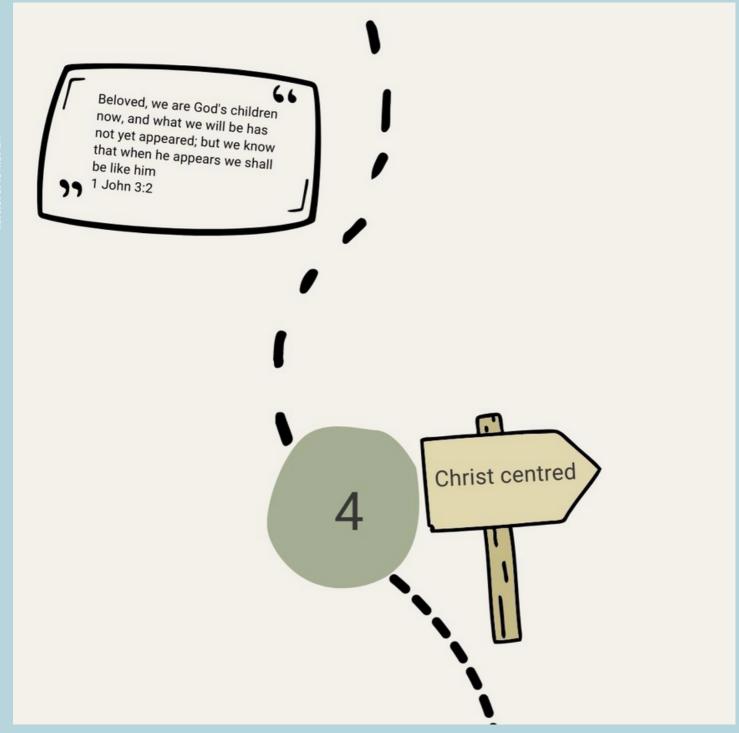
And we believe that we don't take this journey alone.











AND WE ALL, WITH UNVEILED FACE, BEHOLDING THE GLORY OF THE LORD, ARE BEING TRANSFORMED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM ONE DEGREE OF GLORY TO ANOTHER. FOR THIS COMES FROM THE LORD WHO IS THE SPIRIT. (2 CORINTHIANS 3:18)

Transformation through
Exploring --> Growing --> Committing --> Surrendering

Exploring through

- One of our Services
- English Sunday 930am & 4pm
- Cantonese Saturday 3pm & Sunday 930am
- Mandarin Sunday 11am
- Gospel classes (Cantonese/Mandarin)
- Alpha course (English)
- The Word One-to-One
- Baptism classes
- First steps/Just for starters

Growing through

- Discipleship groups
- Developing personal spiritual practices
- Mentoring
- Giving

Committing through

- Joining a ministry team
- Leadership training
- PTC
- Evangelism training

Surrendering by

- MTS
- Ministry beyond St George's



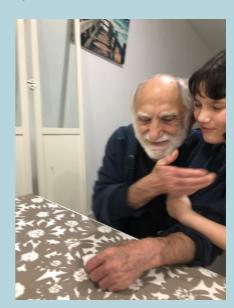
REAL RELATIONSHIP

BELOVED, LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER, FOR LOVE IS FROM GOD, AND WHOEVER LOVES HAS BEEN BORN OF GOD AND KNOWS GOD. ANYONE WHO DOES NOT LOVE DOES NOT KNOW GOD, BECAUSE GOD IS LOVE. IN THIS THE LOVE OF GOD WAS MADE MANIFEST AMONG US, THAT GOD SENT HIS ONLY SON INTO THE WORLD, SO THAT WE MIGHT LIVE THROUGH HIM. (1 JOHN 4:7-9)

God has created human beings to be in relationships of love. We flourish in such relationships. Sadly, we live in a world of broken relationships. Jesus has come to restore our relationships, with God and with one another. He promises that when he returns, he will restore all things. While we wait, we will experience brokenness but the Holy Spirit is actively working to transform us and our relationship.

Jesus welcomes us as we are, but he won't leave us as we are. Church is where we learn and express this reality. We don't pretend that relationships will be perfect on this side of heaven. We don't have to be ok to come to Jesus or be part of His church. We can hurt and disappoint one another. But we believe that the Spirit will transform us to be more like Jesus.

We grow in love and more like Jesus, if we allow the Gospel to transform us and our relationships.



REAL RELATIONSHIP

MY COMMAND IS THIS: LOVE EACH OTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.

GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS: TO LAY DOWN ONE'S LIFE
FOR ONE'S FRIENDS. YOU ARE MY FRIENDS IF YOU DO WHAT I
COMMAND. I NO LONGER CALL YOU SERVANTS, BECAUSE A
SERVANT DOES NOT KNOW HIS MASTER'S BUSINESS. INSTEAD, I
HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS, FOR EVERYTHING THAT I LEARNED
FROM MY FATHER I HAVE MADE KNOWN TO YOU. (JOHN 15:12-15)

Building connections

- D-groups
- Hospitality, meals, trips
- Special interest groups and activities (badminton, boardgames, dancing, soccer, tennis, boxing, hiking, English as additional language)

Caring and Wellbeing

- Pastoral care teams
- Cancare
- Divorce care
- Overcomes group
- Additional needs group
- Conflict mediation
- Courses:
- Marriage
- Parenting
- Conflict management
- Single Minded
- Mental health



INTER-GENERATIONAL

AND THESE WORDS THAT I COMMAND YOU TODAY SHALL BE ON YOUR HEART. YOU SHALL TEACH THEM DILIGENTLY TO YOUR CHILDREN, AND SHALL TALK OF THEM WHEN YOU SIT IN YOUR HOUSE, AND WHEN YOU WALK BY THE WAY, AND WHEN YOU LIE DOWN, AND WHEN YOU RISE. (DEUT 6:6-7)

We believe that the next generation needs more than just a good curriculum and program. They need to see faith in real people.

They need spiritual uncles and aunties.

Our differences means that sometimes we may need to learn and grow with others who are similar to us. But at other times, we need to be together - young and old, ministering to one another, doing life together. Like the rest of life, this can be messy at times.



INTER-GENERATIONAL

(JESUS) SAID TO THEM, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, AND DO NOT HINDER THEM, FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE. TRULY I TELL YOU, ANYONE WHO WILL NOT RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD LIKE A LITTLE CHILD WILL NEVER ENTER IT." (MARK 10:14-15)

Age specific

- NewGen (K-6)
 Sunday 930am and 11am
- Exile youth (yr 7-12) Friday 5-7pm
- Conferences and camps
- KYKC
- SouthSYC
- Connect South (school leavers)

Together

- All generational worship services
- Fathering project
- Mentoring
- Picnic church



LOVE WITHOUT AGENDA

JESUS REPLIED: "LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'
THIS IS THE FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT. AND THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: 'LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'
(MATTHEW 22:37-39)

Jesus tells a story about a man helping a complete stranger Luke 10:25-37. He told the story to answer a question: 'who is my neighbour?'

Though the story, Jesus invites us to ask a different question: 'who can I be a neighbour to?' God has been a good neighbour to us.

Jesus saw our needs. He had compassion on us. He has provided for us in Jesus.

As His children, we want to be like God - in meeting their various needs, especially their greatest need - a relationship with God.



LOVE WITHOUT AGENDA

THEREFORE, AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY, LET US DO GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO BELONG TO THE FAMILY OF BELIEVERS. (GALATIANS 6:10)

Regular programs

- Our church services
- English as additional language
- Scripture in Schools
- Cancare
- Evangelism

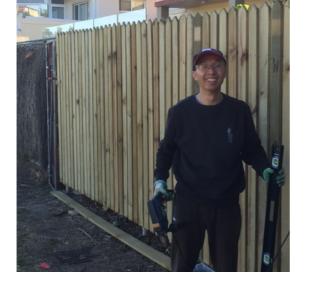
Mission partnerships

- Wycliffe bible translators in PNG
- Hurstville Highschool Scripture Board
- Berkeley Life Centre
- Compassion
- New Life Nepalese Church
- Sydney Nepali Church
- JC in South East Asia

Occasional programs

- Bethlehem Experience
- NTE mission
- Sydney short term mission







THEREFORE, I URGE YOU, BROTHERS, IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCY, TO OFFER YOUR BODIES AS LIVING SACRIFICES, HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD — THIS IS YOUR SPIRITUAL ACT OF WORSHIP... JUST AS EACH OF US HAS ONE BODY WITH MANY MEMBERS, AND THESE MEMBERS DO NOT ALL HAVE THE SAME FUNCTION, SO IN CHRIST WE WHO ARE MANY FORM ONE BODY, AND EACH MEMBER BELONGS TO ALL THE OTHERS. WE HAVE DIFFERENT GIFTS, ACCORDING TO THE GRACE GIVEN US... (ROMANS 12:1-8)

WHY GET INVOLVED?

- 1. The difference between being a customer and a member of the family.
- 2. Fastest way to know people.
- 3. God's way to grow you.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Service can be:

- formal or informal
- big or small
- long term or short term

Starts small.

Begin with a conversation with one of the pastors.

make a difference through

SERVICE



GIVING

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)



WHY GIVE?

- 1. The Bible says that God's people should give because:
- giving is a grateful response to the generosity of God, shown in the death of his Son. (2 Cor 8-9)
- we are partners in God's Gospel. (Phil 1:3-7)
- we have an obligation to provide for those who labour amongst us in the Lord and teach us God's word. (1 Cor 9, 1 Tim 5:17-18)
- We also have an obligation to provide for the needy. Jesus said: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'.
- 2. It makes a difference. Some examples of the things that your giving has done:
 - Provided clean water through the building of water purification plant in Tanzania.
 - Provided a year's rent for one of mission partner's ministry facility during Covid.
 - Bought a car for a mission partner when they lost their only car unexpectedly.

St George's is entirely dependent on the faithfulness of the congregation. We do receive a small amount of income from other sources (faculty hire, return & earn, government grant).



OUR RESPONSIBILITY WITH YOUR GIVING

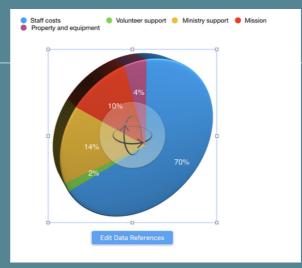
We believe that Jesus loving, Spirit transformed, Kingdom seeking people love to give. But they don't want their money wasted and they want their giving to make a difference. Therefore we are committed to:

- Faithful stewardship of our common resources.
- Transparency.
- Accountability.



HOW TO GIVE

- 1. Direct Debit or Credit Card
- 2. Internet banking
- 3. Cash.





To help you take the next steps in joining the St George's family, please make an appointment with one of the pastors at a time convenient to you enquiry@stgeorgeshurstville.org.au.

The purpose of the catch up is help you with your journey of faith, answer any questions and work out the possible next steps for you.

