



HILLSONG CHURCH AUSTRALIA

MISSION IMPACT

END-OF-YEAR UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2024





A LETTER FROM PHIL & LUCINDA

GLOBAL SENIOR PASTORS

Dear Church,

First and foremost, the biggest THANK YOU to each one of you for faithfully building God's House, serving His people, and loving Him. We're so encouraged by the spirit we're feeling in our church — the health, the lean-in, and the buy-in!

It's with great excitement that we welcome you to the second Mission Impact update for the year. More than a report, it's a testimony of God's goodness across Hillsong Church in Australia. We hope these pages stir your faith and increase your levels of gratitude for what we get to be a part of. Through gatherings like Hillsong Conference, Sisterhood One Day, Men's Night, and of course, our weekly church services, held in twenty-nine campus locations across Australia, we've witnessed a fresh awakening of God's presence. A special shout-out to our Kids, Youth, and Young Adults ministries for the awesome momentum they've generated this year. Personally, it's a highlight for us to come to church every Sunday and see all the amazing people who want to worship Jesus, grow in their faith, and connect with each other.

Our Australia Key Support Team have been focused on two of our mission areas. In building healthy church communities, we're dedicated to fostering healthy pastors and healthy campuses. Some incredible new campus pastors have joined our team across locations such as Newcastle, Brisbane Central, Darwin, and Sunshine Coast North. In September, we had the joy of gathering all our campus pastors for a few days of training, spending quality time connecting and having fun together. A core commitment for us is to raise up layers of exceptional leaders and draw out the gold in everyone. In the area of developing purpose-filled Jesus-followers, we've introduced a discipleship strategy focused on cultivating a culture of following Jesus together. More details about our initiatives in these mission areas are included in this update.

Another big THANK YOU for your faithfulness and generosity in supporting our Heart for the Mission offering, including your contributions to the Hillsong Foundation. We know this giving is sacrificial, and we love sharing that it's yielding a harvest in the lives of many people locally, nationally, and globally. At our South West Campus in Sydney, your giving helped upgrade their Hillsong Kids space, creating a safer and more inviting environment where kids can praise God, come to know Jesus, and make friends. We love that the renovation was done by members of our church, who saw the need and volunteered their time and skills to make something great happen. It's a precious investment into the next generation, and only one of many miracle stories!



A LETTER FROM PHIL & LUCINDA – CONT.

We love and appreciate our volunteers greatly. Our dream is to raise up an army of volunteers across Australia, who are committed to building God’s House in whatever capacity they can. As we look forward to a new year, we encourage everyone in our church to consider joining a volunteer team, whether it’s for two hours a week or twenty hours! Scripture says every, single part is vital to building the House of God: *“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ ... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”* (1 Corinthians 12:12, 27 NIV). This requires intentionality—drawing people close, investing in them, believing in their potential, and giving them opportunities to step into what they are called to do.

As you read through this Mission Impact update, we hope you share our sense of wonder at all we’ve achieved together through His Spirit. Our vision is to keep building a Healthy Church that Changes Lives Through Christ. We pray that every person who walks through our doors – both now and in the future, will find a place to belong, lifelong friends to share the journey with, a fresh purpose for their lives, and above all, a close and personal relationship with Jesus.

We want to extend our deepest appreciation to our Australia Board and Spiritual Advisory Team for their ongoing support, encouragement, guidance, and prayer.

We love Jesus, we love the Church, and we love that we get to do this together, building healthy church communities across Australia. Thank you again for an awe-inspiring year.

May God continue to bless and refresh our church, guiding each of us in the part we have to play and strengthening our collective resolve, as we build His House and serve Him together.

Bring on 2025! We have faith for it!

Love and blessings,

Phil and Lucinda

Global Senior Pastors

“We love and appreciate our volunteers greatly. Our dream is to raise up an army of volunteers across Australia, who are committed to building God’s House in whatever capacity they can.”



KEY SUPPORT TEAM UPDATE

HILLSONG AUSTRALIA

As we prioritise our vision to build a healthy church that changes lives through Christ, we are strategically focused on three areas: Discipleship, Healthy Campuses, and a Healthy Staff and Volunteer Culture. This report includes details about our Discipleship Strategy and new initiatives (pages 9-10).

In the previous Mission Impact update, we highlighted our commitment to healthy churches by prioritising the well-being of our campuses and campus pastors. To support this mission, we developed a **Healthy Church Framework** designed to promote holistic health for both our pastors and locations. This framework clarifies the often intangible and instinctual aspects of leadership, fostering greater alignment across our teams and locations. Introduced in February, it has been progressively rolled out this year, with further details available on the following page.

We shared this framework with our campus pastors during our off-site training days in September, providing a valuable opportunity to connect, worship, pray for one another, and even enjoy a game of dodgeball.

We have deep gratitude for our staff and volunteers, and our focus has been on ensuring they are healthy and supported. Our annual staff survey has informed our initiatives to build trust and enhance wellbeing. We honour all our volunteers, and throughout the year, we aim to be more intentional in our communication and efforts to build community.

On the following pages, we hope you enjoy reading about the impact we have achieved together in our mission areas. Thank you, church, for your faithfulness, love for each other, and dedication to Christ as we partner together in building God's house.



Key Support Team Australia

Click [here](#) to view bios.

Campus Support 1	Campus Support 2	Campus Support 3	Campus Support 4	Discipleship Support	Social Impact Support	Operational Support	Strategy Support
Darren Kitto	Andrew Midson	Jay Jury	Nathan Mclean	Katie Schrack	Lauren Thomson	Carl-Hugo Ander	Kent Medwin



KEY SUPPORT TEAM UPDATE

HILLSONG AUSTRALIA

As part of achieving our vision, we have developed a framework that highlights how a healthy pastor and a healthy campus work together to create a healthy church. This framework emphasises holistic health across all areas of our ministry, providing clarity on the key factors that contribute to a thriving church. Central to this model is the development and equipping of our campus pastors to lead their locations effectively while maintaining operational excellence, while also providing clear development opportunities for future pastors.

This year, we introduced four key competencies—growing, ministering, leading, and mentoring—designed to define and enhance the role of a **Healthy Campus Pastor** (outlined below). With calling and character as foundational elements, we recognise that campus pastors need a broad skill set to ensure success in a healthy and sustainable way. Key indicators of a Healthy Campus include location, team structure, mission focus, and financial health—factors that will guide future church planting decisions.

To support our vision, we developed a competency framework and development pipeline aimed at fostering the growth of our campus pastors. This framework offers a clear pathway for emerging leaders, with a focus on future church planting, while also enhancing the overall leadership capacity of our pastoral team. This year, we hosted eight GROW sessions, Campus Pastor Grow days, KST and strategy days, and two Campus Pastor inductions, all aimed at upskilling and developing key competencies. These initiatives have been highly successful and well-received.

Furthermore, the Key Support Team has established a Campus Development Pathway launching in 2025. Open to both staff and volunteers, this first phase will be focused on future campus pastors. It includes mentoring, theological instruction, and hands-on ministry experience, ensuring well-rounded preparation for pastoral roles.

CORE COMPETENCIES OF A HEALTHY CAMPUS PASTOR

(appropriate Christlike character is essential)

Growing

- Personal Discipleship
- Personal Development
- Character Formation
- Teachable Spirit

Ministering

- Theology & Doctrine
- Pastoral Care & Leadership
- Platform Ministry
- Discipleship Implementation

Leading

- Build Team & Leaders
- Vision Casting
- People Skills (High EQ)
- Leading Aligned (Bigger Picture)

Managing

- Finance & Budgets
- Systems & Structures
- Strategic Planning
- Communication



AUSTRALIA LOCATIONS

Our 29 Campus Locations





PRAISE REPORTS

FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA



Hobart Building Opening

9TH JUNE

We celebrated the opening of our beautifully renovated building in Hobart on Sunday, 9th June. We marked the opening with worship, special guests, and heartfelt moments that made it an unforgettable day.



Heart for the Mission

16TH JUNE

We are deeply grateful for the incredible \$11,647,073 given to the Heart for the Mission offering, including the Hillsong Foundation, for the 2023–2024 financial year. This sacrificial generosity of our faithful congregation enables life-changing initiatives across national, local, and global levels.



Hillsong Conference

8-10TH JULY

In July, we gathered for three days under the name of Jesus at our Hillsong Conference! This gathering was a significant milestone for us as individuals and as a collective Church. We are so grateful to all our delegates, volunteer teams, and staff for making this gathering so special – it would not have been the same, and we could not have done it without you!

To view highlights from the day, [click here](#).

To view the Heart for the Mission brochure, [click here](#).

To register for Hillsong Conference 2025, [register here](#).



PRAISE REPORTS

FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA



Sisterhood One Day

7TH SEPT

Hillsong Australia held its first-ever Sisterhood One Day event. The day was filled with unforgettable moments, where God's goodness was tangible. The day featured powerful worship, impactful wisdom shared by the speakers, and meaningful fellowship among the women of our church. Collectively, the Sisterhood raised just over \$32,200, which will provide 420 maternity bags for women in the Northern Territory through CityCare.

Men's Night

20TH SEPT

Our Men's Night was a time to encourage all men to grow in community together, with a focus on gatherings and connect groups. Phil also launched his Men's Growth Challenge devotional emails which will provide regular thoughts and devotions for those interested in strengthening and deepening their walk with God. We are excited for what's to come in our Men's ministry across Australia.

Faith Mission Partners Breakfast

19TH OCT

Across Australia, we had our FMP Breakfasts, where we gathered together as a faith-filled community. Daniel Wordsworth, the CEO of World Vision Australia, shared a powerful reminder of God's sovereignty over the world's most challenging situations.

To view highlights from the day, [click here](#).

To receive Men's Growth Challenge emails, [register here](#).

If you're interested in joining our FMP Community, [click here](#).



DISCIPLESHIP UPDATE

A Disciple is someone following Christ ("follow me")
Being changed by Christ ("I will make you")
And committed to the mission of Christ ("fishers of men")

Matthew 4:19

Let's follow Jesus together

For both new Christians and those who have been following Jesus for many years, discipleship is a lifelong pursuit. We follow Him to become more like Him, to live how He lived and be a part of His mission for all of creation.

We have been working hard to define our discipleship strategy for Hillsong Church. In early 2025, a discipleship framework will begin to permeate the culture in which we all spur one another on to follow Jesus. This framework will empower us as a church to understand Jesus' call to discipleship and participate in that call both individually and collectively. New resources are also currently being created that will support this process. Our first new resource that is now being utilised in campuses is the Good News Guidebook. Please see the next page to learn more.

“As our staff credo states, our primary ‘why’ is to be ‘followers of Jesus first,’ and our goal is to create a discipleship culture...”

KATIE SCHRACK, HEAD OF DISCIPLESHIP, AUSTRALIA

GROW-ESSENTIALS

Knowing God

*"And this is the way to have eternal life
—to know you, the only true God"
John 17:3*

Becoming a person who flourishes in vibrant relationship with God; with growing appreciation of His character and likeness.

Growing in Holiness

*"Make them holy by your truth"
John 17:17*

Becoming a person whose identity is found in Christ and who is growing to become more like Christ.

Sharing in Community

*"I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one"
John 17:21*

Becoming a person who contributes to unified, healthy, and life-giving relationship with others.

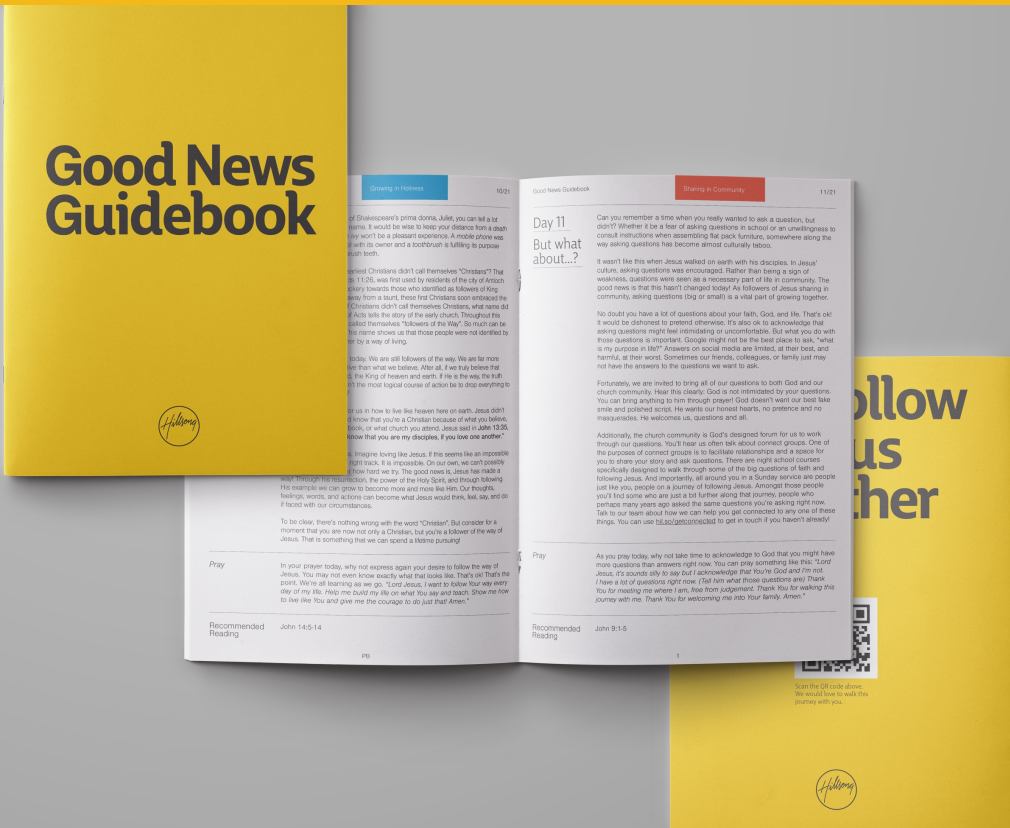
Living on Mission

*"I am sending them into the world"
John 17:18*

Becoming a person who actively participates in God's redemption plan for all of creation.



GOOD NEWS GUIDEBOOK



New Christian Resource

Our newest discipleship resource that has been created using our discipleship framework is called the Good News Guidebook. This resource is designed to support people on their journey as new Christians. The Good News Guidebook is a 21-day devotional guide covers the four essentials of Christian life: Knowing God, Growing in Holiness, Sharing in Community, and Living on Mission. Each day includes a guided prayer and recommended reading, making it an accessible, practical tool for new believers.

Printed copies of the Good News Guidebook will be available at every campus and given to those who make a decision to follow Jesus during our church services. While we will continue to offer Bibles, this guidebook will serve as a companion resource for those new to the faith. Additionally, a digital version, specially formatted for easy reading on mobile devices, will be available for everyone in our congregation. You can explore the digital guide here: [Good News Guidebook](#).

Let's follow Jesus together!



BUILDING HEALTHY CHURCH COMMUNITIES

HILLSONG CONFERENCE

8-10 JULY HILLS CAMPUS, SYDNEY



ALWAYS-JOY

4,240 people gathered. 39 countries represented.

Hillsong Conference 2024 was a significant gathering where God moved uniquely and profoundly within us as individuals and as a church community. Over the three days we spent together under the name of Jesus, we witnessed countless testimonies of God working through His people – stories of spiritual growth, new friendships, miraculous healing, restoration, joy and so much more.

To our delegates, we want to thank you all for being a part of it and making Hillsong Conference so special. It would not have been the same without you! To our volunteer teams and staff – thank you for all the hard work, prayer, and commitment to make this year’s Hillsong Conference a strong, memorable and powerful experience for everyone involved. A sincere thank you to Pastors Darrell Johnson, Chris Mathebula, Mark Sayers, and Trudi Sayers! Your presence and wisdom have enriched this year’s Hillsong Conference beyond measure. Your revelations and teachings have inspired and empowered us to walk closer with God and each other. We are deeply grateful for your contribution to building His kingdom.

We extend the invitation to Hillsong Conference Sydney 2025. Visit our [website](#) to find out more.



COMPASSION

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Compassion’s mission is to release children from poverty in Jesus’ name. For the past 70 years, they have worked alongside over 8,500 local churches, offering holistic care to more than 2 million vulnerable children in over 25 countries around the world.

Hillsong has been blessed to partner with Compassion for over 20 years, supporting local churches and witnessing the transformative power of Jesus in children’s lives. Together, we’ve had the privilege of seeing over 130,000 children and their families begin to break free from poverty through the generosity of sponsors, many of whom connected through Hillsong gatherings and conferences.

Earlier this month, we took time to celebrate the collective impact of our partnership across campuses in Australia. As a church, we remain focused on Uganda, where we’re grateful to be part of a positive change in the lives of children, their families, communities, and the nation as a whole.

At present, we are supporting over 12,000 vulnerable children in Uganda. Thanks to your ongoing generosity, an additional 435 children have been sponsored—children who are now known, loved, and supported through your partnership. We are proud to be part of Compassion’s global neighbourhood and playing our role in this important work. This is a partnership more powerful than poverty, bringing hope to those that need it most.

“I’m deeply thankful for Hillsong’s support over so many years, and especially for those who have given generously and sacrificially so that children can be released from poverty in Jesus’ name.”

CLARE STEELE, COMPASSION AUSTRALIA CEO



A LETTER FROM DR STEPHEN CROUCH

AUSTRALIA BOARD CHAIR

Dear Church,

*“For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder” — Isaiah 9:6 (NKJV).*

It was Isaiah who foretold the birth of Jesus over 700 years before the first Christmas. It is our tradition to sing Christmas Carols at Hillsong Church and around our nation over 2,000 years after the first Christmas. The Christmas period provides us all with a great time to stop, reflect and express our gratitude.

Christmas is a great time to consider the generous gift of Christ.

I am especially grateful for you, the people who make up the church, serving with your talent, your time and your gift. You really do embody “A healthy church changing lives through Christ”.

This year we have seen our church grow, as each of you have grown, building healthy church communities and developing purposeful-filled followers of Jesus.

Thank you, Church, for your generosity through Heart for the Mission, Hillsong Foundation, and your invaluable support for social impact initiatives with CityCare and partners like Compassion.

To our Hillsong Volunteers, you are an inspiration. Thank you for your faithful service and dedication — your selfless efforts truly embody the heart of our church.

Finally, my gratitude extends to our Australia Key Support Team and to Phil and Lucinda who have provided exceptional leadership. You have faithfully led our church toward greater health, credibility, and spiritual strength, guiding us into God’s purpose for His church.

Be blessed this Christmas!



Dr Stephen Crouch
Australia Board Chair

AN UPDATE FROM THE HONOURABLE LOUISE MARKUS

AUSTRALIA BOARD DEPUTY CHAIR



On Monday, 4th of November, representing Hillsong Church Australia, we had the privilege of attending the Australian National Prayer Breakfast at Parliament House in Canberra. I was joined by fellow Board Member Amanda Tay, leaders from the Australia Key Support Team — Lauren Thomson, Andrew Midson, Jay Jury, and Kent Medwin — including some of our campus pastors and team, Allen Yam, Crystal Midson, and Jayden Paine. We heard from national dignitaries, Members of Parliament, Senators, and other civic leaders, as well as the guest speaker, Priyan (Max) Jeganathan. Aside from enjoying Christian fellowship, we took time to pray over our nation.

While in Canberra, we also took the opportunity to meet with Members of the House of Representatives, and Senators in the halls of Parliament House. In representing Hillsong

Church, we shared our vision, mission, and the impact we have on the communities we serve across various campuses in Australia (outlined below). We enjoyed meeting and hearing our Federal MPs' hearts for the communities they represent, the needs they face, and how we can partner alongside them as a church.

This visit was invaluable for us as a church to show who we are, what we are about, and to come together with fellow Christians in our national capital to pray to God and support the communities we serve. *"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."* — 1 Timothy 2:1-2 (NIV).



Hillsong Australia Board
To view the board members and their bios, please click through to our [website here.](#)

THANK YOU!

To all our campuses and church communities across Australia,

As we reflect on this past year, we are deeply grateful for each of you. Your commitment, generosity, and faith have been instrumental in strengthening our church family across Australia.

From Hills to Hobart, from Perth to the Sunshine Coast, each campus has played a vital role in sharing hope, serving those in need and making a lasting impact. Thank you for being the heart and hands of our mission.

Let's continue to build on this incredible foundation as we look forward to the new year with anticipation and faith.

Blessings,
Hillsong Church





Contact: governance@hillsong.com