



NEXT STEPS

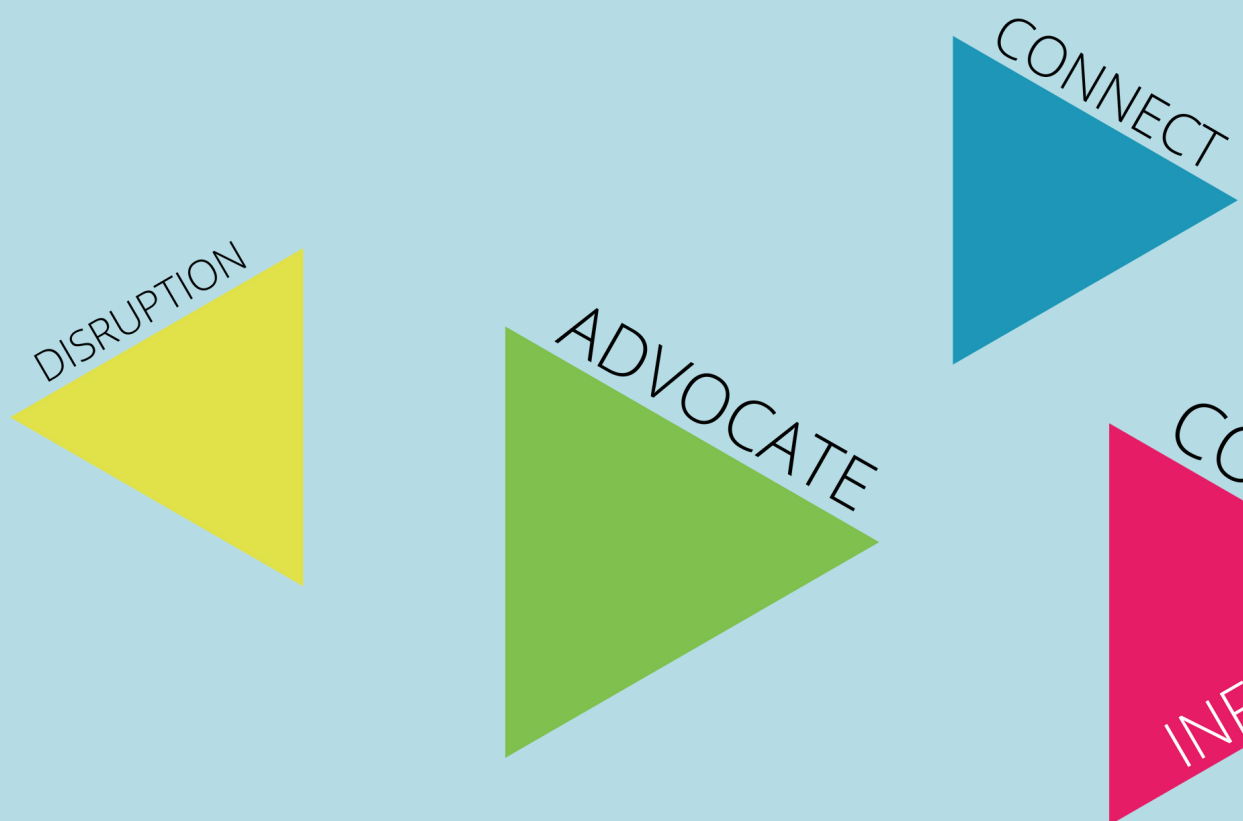
Into 2024

NEXT STEPS

If I could summarise 2023 in a sentence, it might be 'one step backwards – two steps forwards'. As the post-Covid dust settled, it became clear that for some of the DAC family there were unresolved issues from the past. We invited church health consultant Craig Farmer to come and listen, feed back, and guide us through a process of lamenting and turning a new page. Having walked alongside our most disaffected people through that valley, I believe we have begun a new chapter. I am trusting that God has seasons of refreshment and transformation ahead of us. At the moment we are enjoying a season of stability and normality – every family needs that from time to time. The core focus for next year will be growing as disciples.

Rev David Rietveld

Make Disciples



MISSION PATHWAY AND DISCIPLESHIP

To date, we have focused on introducing the Discipleship Pathway. In 2022, we thought about 'walking alongside' people as an 'advocate'. In 2021, we talked about identifying disruption - coincidentally, we did this as we exited from COVID lockdowns.

Next year we will pivot from making disciples - to growing disciples. How do disciples grow? Beyond naming up that disciples practice 'IN' 'OUT' and 'UP', how do they spiritually mature? This will be our focus for 2024.

Grow Disciples



YOUNG
ADULT

CHILD

PARENT

COMMIT

INFANT



CONFIRMATION/ BAPTISM

After a few years break, we will run a confirmation class for those who wish to publicly confess their allegiance to Jesus and his church. Sunday the 8th of September will be Baptism Sunday. We have a confirmation service booked for the Sunday after, 15th September, at our 6pm service. Classes will be run for Confirmation.

CHURCH CAMP

Also back after a few years break, we are planning a church-wide camp in November 2024. More details to follow.



SUMMER NIGHTS

We will continue our tradition of asking various ministries to hold events over January, mostly in the evenings. Be ready for a walk, a day trip, watching the Hawks at the Entertainment Centre, food – who knows – but it will be fun, and we will do it together.



ALPHA

There are a number of people coming through various ministries, including Creative Connection and line dancing, who are ready to sign up to a gospel course. Be praying for your friends.

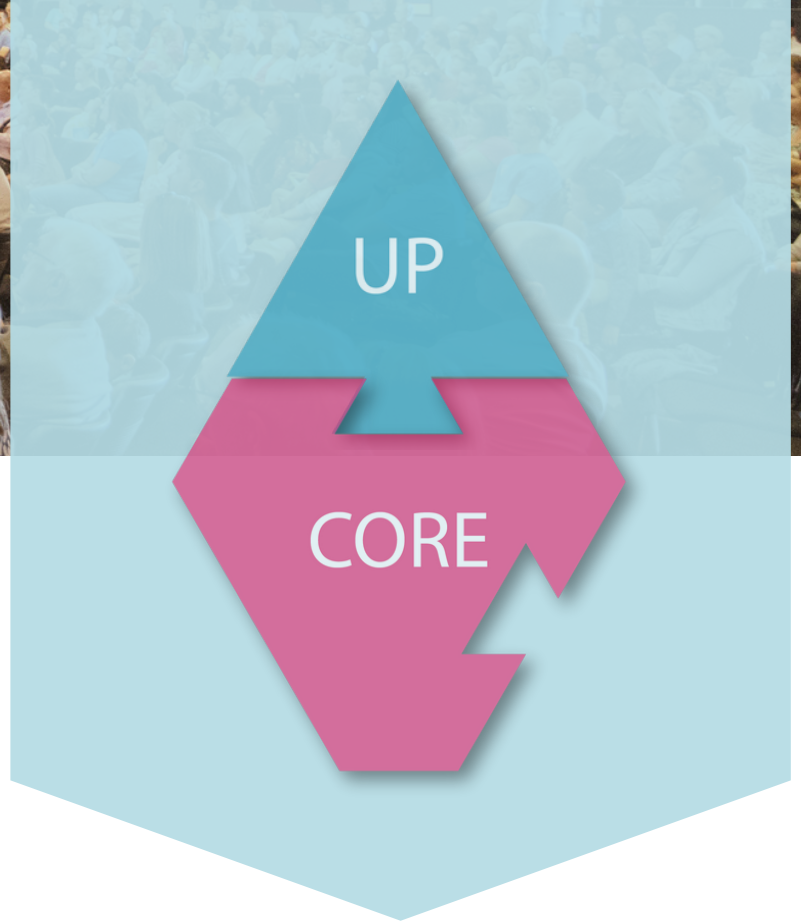
CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE FOR SCHOOLS

We have two grades from Calderwood coming as a trial in 2023. We are inviting a number of local schools to have an excursion to our Christmas Experience in 2024.



SISTER PRESCHOOL IN TANZANIA

Anglican Aid support a preschool in Tanzania. St Luke's Preschool and DAC will form a sister preschool relationship with this preschool. This will include updates, and an annual fundraising event.



DISCIPLESHIP INCUBATOR

In term 3 we will embark on a discipleship growth intensive journey as a church. This will be our small group curriculum for the term, with an optional external resource as your own quiet time material.

PRAYER LABYRINTH

Our spiritual discipline for Lent will entail setting out a prayer labyrinth on the front lawns of St Luke's Brownsville.



HOW TO BE A DISCIPLE?

Our Core teaching series for 2024 will be about being disciples of Jesus. We will also ask each small group to run its own IN and OUT event in terms 2 and 3.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

CONNECT KIDS

Connect Kids will begin the second year of the Gospel Project curriculum. We have been really enjoying this program from preschool through to Oxygen Youth.

Playpatch will come under new leadership in 2024, and consider spaces and programs used.

We will seek to train a couple of team members to particularly support neurodiverse children as they participate in our Sunday morning program.

Connect Kids will continue to pursue intergenerational opportunities, such as workshops for children run by church members, end of term whole family services involving children in the service, and Playpatch visits to HammondCare.

YOUTH

Next year youth ministry will look a little different on a Friday night. We are still committed to opening the bible each week, planning great activities and community. One big change is our junior (Years 6-8) and senior (Years 9-12) programs will combine for one time slot, 7pm-9pm. This will make it easier for families to bring their youth, and put all our energy into one great ministry!

YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults ministry for 2024 will take more shape, building on the steady growth from this year. As we look to rebuild this valuable ministry we will focus on community, doing life well with each other. Some significant events will be built into the calendar such as summer nights, YA combine nights across the Wollongong area and more.

PROPERTY

ZONING MINISTRY AREAS

At present we have many multi-purpose spaces. The wardens, in collaboration with the ministry staff, are planning to demarcate and theme certain spaces. One space will be more children friendly, another more youth friendly, with another safer for wide games.

FINISHING OFF THE FORECOURT

The forecourt will be finished off with fencing and some benches. We plan to integrate and update the children-friendly area to the west of the forecourt to complete the works.

FUNDRAISING

Our trivia night successfully raised funds for the dishwasher. Now its time to pay for a front fence - one that will keep our children safe, and give parents peace of mind. The front fence will cost \$6,500 to purchase and install. We would like to incorporate a new Dapto Anglican sign at the centre of the forecourt. This will cost another \$1,000. Please prayerfully consider if you might be able to donate to this worthwhile cause.

