

iServe



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Why Help Out?

Helping out is a key to becoming part of any community. In volunteering we say “This is my place. I have something to offer to help make this a better place”. To serve others is important for our own spiritual health and the strength of the entire community. We all come with our different God-given gifts, abilities and life-skills. As we use our talents and gifts we bless one another.

When we serve through the ministries and activities here at St Stephen’s we serve the vision and the purposes of the Kingdom. It is also a great way of getting to know others as you spend time doing stuff together.

Who am I serving?

Willingly spending our lives on others is a high calling—we become like Jesus. He said “*I came not to be served but to serve*” (Matt 20:28) We become Jesus’ hands and feet in the church and in the world. Jesus also said “*When you did this for the least of these you did it for me*” (Matt 25:40). We understand that we are not simply volunteering, we are actually serving Jesus through what we do. We see serving as a natural outworking of a life of worship—as we serve, we worship.

Where do I start?

Start by reading this booklet. You will see a wide variety of opportunities to serve. Find some places where you can help to build a great welcoming community. Where possible we encourage everyone to be involved on Sundays. We see this as a regular part of our worship. So pray and ask God where He wants you to be involved to make this a better place.

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptised by one Spirit so as to form one body. (1 Cor 12:12-13)



What Can I Do?

Now you are the body of Christ, and each of one you is a part of it.

(1Cor 12-27)

This booklet is about serving. Below are some guidelines for you. However, it is important to remember we gather for relationship and fellowship with god and with each other so please come to church on Sundays whether you are serving that day or not. We want to see you.

How much can I do?

On Sundays:

- We would like you to have time to receive at church. We aim that each person serves no more than 2 times per month, and on only 1 rostered duty on any Sunday.
- Be involved in as many Sunday teams as you would like. We hope that each person helps out in 3-4 different teams over a term.
- A healthy Christian life is a balance of giving and receiving. Come to church even when you are not serving.

Other times:

There is an array of other areas of service during the week where we have opportunities to use our natural and God-given gifts to see those areas prosper. Please take a look at these too and consider prayerfully where else you might take part.

If you have any questions, talk to a member of staff, or a Team Leader, or phone the office. We look forward to you signing up and joining some of the Teams.

