



WHY PLANT A CHURCH?

IS IT NEEDED?

The most generous estimates suggest that only 7% of the Australian population attend church (McCrindle Research 2017). This means Sydney (population 5.2 million) could have as few as 364,000 people attending church (at least monthly) and 4.8 million people that need Jesus.

Between 1991–2011, Australia saw a net loss of around 1100 churches, yet in that same period of time our national population grew by about 5 million people. We need hundreds of new disciple-making, churchplanting churches if we hope to reach this city and nation with the good news that Jesus is King.

The National Church Life Survey from 2016 tells us that for every 100 adult church attendees:

- Y 13% are aged 15–29; 24% are aged 30–49; 34% are aged 50–69; and 29% are aged 70+
- → 60% of church attendees in Australia are over 50

We desperately need churches that will reach the emerging generations. The average age of a church attendee in Australia is 55. Younger demographics are increasingly less represented. We believe planting new churches is the best way to reach the next generation.

"New churches best reach new generations, new residents, and new people groups." Timothy Keller

IS IT EFFECTIVE?

"Planting churches is the most effective evangelistic methodology under heaven." Peter Wagner

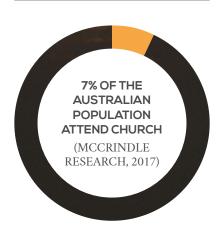
New churches have energy, momentum, a high sense of ownership, and heightened awareness of the urgency to reach people with the gospel. Additionally, the National Church Life Survey (NCLS) tells us that new churches score higher on every measure of church health compared to established churches.

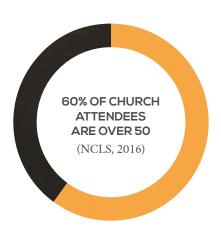
"New churches best reach the unchurched ... studies have confirmed that the average new church gains most of its new members (60–80%) from the [unchurched population]." Timothy Keller

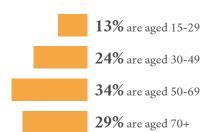
We have seen God's abundant faithfulness at Anchor Church over the past eight years as we've sought to reach our city with the good news of Jesus. We have grown from 17 people praying in a living room to two vibrant churches of over 400 people who love and worship Jesus.

We have baptised people who have come to trust Jesus for the first time and many more have returned after years not walking with him. We have multiplied Gospel Communities across our city, nurturing authentic community, and discipling everyday missionaries. We have seen people embrace our call to do whatever it takes to bring the wayward home. And we want to do it again.

KEY STATS





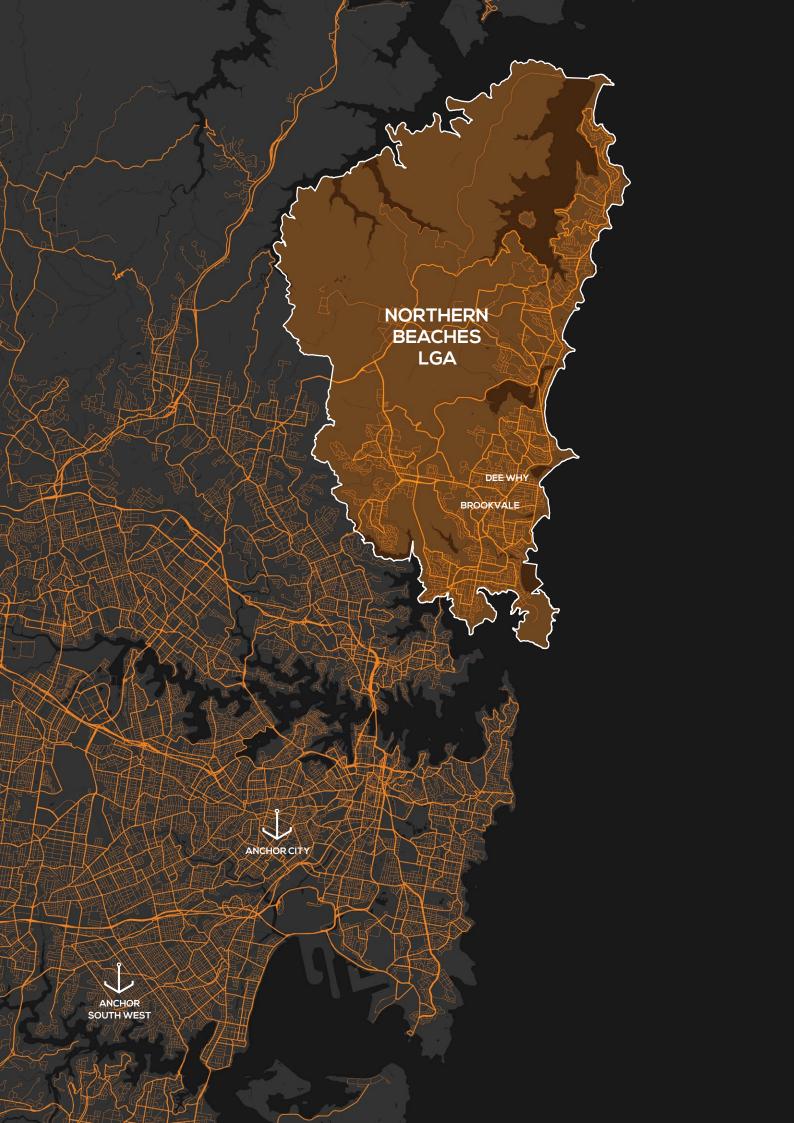


WHY PLANT A CHURCH IN THE NORTHERN BEACHES OF SYDNEY?

The Northern Beaches region of Sydney is a strategic and growing location. Northern Beaches Local Government Area is forecast to grow from a population of 270,642 in 2021 to 312,503 by 2041. We believe there are exciting gospel opportunities in the Northern Beaches, and we look forward to working alongside existing churches in the region to do whatever it takes to bring the wayward home.

We believe the Dee Why/Brookvale area is the location God is calling us to plant this church. Up to now, our Launch Team has been meeting in a living room in Elanora Heights, and we are praying for God to open up a suitable venue for us in our target location in his timing.







JAMES & CALLIN DAWSON

JAMES DAWSON: LEAD PASTOR/PLANTER

James and Callin have been married for over seven years and are parents to Billie (1). James worked in finance and marketing before studying at Sydney Missionary & Bible College. He has eight years vocational ministry experience. James joined Anchor Church Sydney in 2018 as Executive Pastor, and has completed Anchor's Church Planting Residency. After feeling called to plant a church on the Northern Beaches, James and Callin have been internally assessed by Anchor's Movement Leadership, and have also undergone a rigorous external assessment by the Acts 29 Network. James and Callin have a deep passion to see the Northern Beaches of Sydney reached, disciple-making disciples made, and church-planting churches planted—for our joy and God's glory.



CALL, STRATEGY, & VALUES

OUR CALL

God has called us to missionally engage our city and join him in doing:

Whatever it takes to bring the wayward home.

OUR STRATEGY

We'll seek to do this by:

- → Nurturing authentic community
- → Discipling everyday missionaries
- → Creating inspiring gatherings
- Y Engaging our city with prophetic preaching
- → Multiplying healthy Gospel Communities and churches

OUR VALUES

We'll do all this with a commitment to:

- **Y** Generosity
- → Being Real
- Expectancy
- **Y** Joy
- Y Pursuing Excellence
- → Empowering Leaders

W H A T E V E R I T T A K E S T O B R I N G T H E W A Y W A R D H O M E .



YOUR PART IN OUR STORY

REASONS NOT TO JOIN

- You're looking for 'the cool new church'. Our goal is not to gather a crowd of spectators but a family of servants.
- 2. You believe the church exists *just* to meet your needs. The Scriptures give us a deep promise that it is more blessed to give than to receive; we believe that.
- 3. You've been asked to leave your last church due to habitual, unrepentant sin.
- 4. You've been sitting on the sidelines and feel your spiritual gift is simply to point out what is wrong with your church without bringing real, helpful, and collaborative ideas and solutions.
- You've got an agenda that is different to the call, strategy, and values in this document. We need people who are united in mind and purpose.

REASONS TO JOIN

- You have a heart for the lost in the Northern Beaches, and long to see God at work transforming lives, families, communities, and cities.
- You have gifts that you think would be a blessing to a new church and are ready to serve Jesus, his church, and the city.
- 3. You like change, challenges, and starting new things. Church planting is hard work, change is frequent, and everything is new. You like taking risks and having your faith stretched.
- 4. You're after a church that is about all-of-life community not just an event for an hour on Sunday.
- **5.** You want to be part of a church that is all about living on mission for the glory of Jesus the King.

TIMELINE

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PHASE 1
Launch Team Training
May-December 2021

PHASE 2
Beta Church
January-April 2022

PHASE 3
Launch +
Public Gathering
Easter Sunday 2022

HOW TO SUPPORT US

1. PRAYER

Psalm 127:1 says, "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain." We want to saturate every corner of this church in prayer. Every movement of the gospel in history that has seen the church prevail began in fervent prayer. We believe in a God who is able to do more than all we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). Please consider becoming a prayer partner.

2. PROVISION

We hope to gather enough support for James's salary, a student minister, building rental, and other set-up costs through financial support from our sending church, launch team, one-off donations, and seed funding. We would love for you to consider partnering with us around these specific needs as we seek to launch and sustain this new church:

- Y Venue (\$40,000 pa): we would love to find a venue that would seat between 100–200 people with ample and safe space for children's ministries
- → Audio/Visual Equipment (\$20,000):
 - fold-back speakers
 - microphones
 - wireless microphones
 - lighting and accessories
- Y HD data projector (\$3,000)
- Y Apple MacBook Pro (\$3,500)

Our prayer is that your generosity will unleash a growing and vibrant gospel ministry in the Northern Beaches of Sydney.

3. PARTNERSHIP

We need people who—for the right reasons—are willing to consider taking a risk and joining us on mission for Jesus. Our hope is to gather a team of 40 godly, gifted passionate people who have a heart for this region.

Please prayerfully consider how you could play your part in seeing the gospel transform the Northern Beaches.

PARTNERSHIPS & ACCOUNTABILITY

We are planting in partnership with Anchor Church Sydney and the Acts 29 Network. Our desire is to cultivate a church-planting movement as a family of churches, staying unified in our call, strategy, and values while contextualising the mission to the Northern Beaches.

Support and accountability for James will come from the Movement Leadership of Anchor Church Sydney (Matt Sparks and Arnaldo Santiago Jr.). We are also a part of Christian Community Churches of Australia.







CONTACT

JAMES DAWSON

0404 339 689

jamesd@anchorchurch.com.au www.anchorchurch.com.au



" P L A N T I N G C H U R C H E S I S T H E M O S T E F F E C T I V E E V A N G E L I S T I C M E T H O D O L O G Y U N D E R H E A V E N . "

PETER WAGNER

