



BAIRNSDALE BAPTIST CHURCH

CHURCH PROFILE

About Bairnsdale Baptist Church

Bairnsdale Baptist Church (BBC) is located in the small regional city of Bairnsdale, 281km east of Melbourne, Victoria. The population of the city is approximately 18,000, and services a wider area of approximately 30 km radius, including Eagle Point, Paynesville, Lindenow, Nicholson and outer rural areas.

Bairnsdale Baptist Church is a growing, intergenerational church in East Gippsland, Victoria. We are a congregation of around 250 people, with approximately 200 people gathering each Sunday across two services to worship God, learn from His Word, and encourage one another.

With God's strength and wisdom, we seek to be a church that faithfully pursues His mission by building mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

We believe that mature disciples of Jesus are:

Loving God

Living lives of thanksgiving, prayer, praise, and joyful obedience in response to the God who has loved and saved us.

Deep in the Word

Knowing, trusting, and applying God's Word, building every part of life upon its truth.

In Community

Belonging to the fellowship of God's people, growing together through authentic relationships where we know and are known.

Serving Others

Reflecting Christ's love by joyfully serving others, both within the church and throughout the wider community.

On Mission

Sharing God's heart for those who do not yet know Him, making disciples who make disciples as we proclaim the gospel in our everyday lives.



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What We Believe

- We believe that the Bible is the inspired and authoritative Word of God to us.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- We believe that Jesus was born of a virgin, that He lived a sinless life and that He loves us so much that He willingly died on the cross, thereby taking the punishment that we deserve.
- We believe that He was buried in a tomb and that He raised back to life on the third day and that He will return again to gather His believers to heaven.
- We believe that everyone has sinned and needs the forgiveness that only comes through faith and acceptance of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us on the cross.
- We believe that salvation comes by the grace of God alone. There is nothing we can do to earn our own salvation.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit as the third person of the trinity who leads, guides and gives life to believers.

A Brief History

The Church was started in late 1989, initially a home-based worship group as a church plant by the Baptist Union of Victoria in association with Mark and Karen Ray, Southern Baptist (United States) missionaries, and was known as Bairnsdale Community Baptist Fellowship.

The 'First Service' was held on 11 November 1990 with over 55 people in attendance. The fellowship started meeting at the Bairnsdale Secondary College.

The fellowship was formally constituted in 1995 with a membership of 47 people.

In 1996 the fellowship commenced meeting at Bairnsdale Aquatic & Recreation Centre auditorium and then in 1999 moved to Bairnsdale (754) Primary School.

In 2002 the current church site was purchased from the Lutheran Church. A building program was completed and the first service at the current site was held in June 2004.

Our current Senior Pastor, John Frazer, began his role in 2020.

The Church has continued to grow post-Covid and completed renovations to increase the seating capacity of the main auditorium and functionality of our building for our several different ministries. This renovation was quickly outgrown for our Sunday Service so we have begun a new 5pm service as a way to cater for our congregation and prepare for future growth.



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Current Ministries

Busy Bees Playgroup

The playgroup ministry has experienced strong growth since its inception approximately 20 years ago, with 60 families and 80 children now involved in a 3 mornings a week program on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This ministry provides an opportunity for parents to come and spend time with their children and with other parents and children. Most families are non-church attendees.

There is a core group of church families that are active in planning and running the ministry, supported by a wider team of helpers from the church.

Kids Connect (Sunday School)

During Sunday Services children have the opportunity to participate in the service and then head out to their own age-specific programs. Kids Connect is for primary aged children and Little Lights is a program offered for preschool aged children.

Youth Group

Youth Group meets each Friday night (during school terms) with approximately 40 secondary school aged youth attending. The weekly program includes dinner, bible study and themed activities.

First Friday Fellowship

A relaxed monthly time of fun and fellowship for the mature aged including a devotional and lunch.

Men's and Women's Ministries

These groups meet regularly. The vision of these groups is to outreach to men and women in our community who do not know Christ. Attendees have the opportunity to sit and talk over morning tea; a devotion is shared.

Small Groups

A small group network is established across the church with approximately eight groups meeting regularly (usually each week) for a time of prayer, bible study and pastoral care.

Kids Club

An afternoon Kids Club ran from 2023-2024 but was closed due to lack of leaders. We are planning on restarting this in 2027.



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Staff/Leadership

Currently we have a full-time Senior Pastor and a part-time office administrator. The Pastor works together with the church Leadership Team on the vision, ministry and administration of the church.

The Leadership Team currently comprises the Pastor and six elected representatives the church constitution specifies a maximum of eight (8) elected representatives.

Mission Support

The Mission Committee coordinates the church's strong commitment to local and overseas churches through participation, prayer and financial support. The following people or organisations are supported:

- Camp Coolamatong – Scripture Union Victoria
- AFES
- Baptist Mission Australia
- OMF
- SIM
- Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)
- European Christian Mission (ECM)

Further Information

Please refer to the Church website for an overview of the church, or to listen to current Bible Talks.

www.bairnsdalebaptist.org.au