



MISSION SUMMARY

On behalf of our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Stewardship teams, we are pleased to share with you our Mission Summary for the end of August 2023.

Recall our goals for these summaries are threefold. First, to keep you up to date about our financial situation. Second, to share with you the good work our MAP is doing. Third, to ask you to consider how you, your families and your friends might participate with St Cuthbert's.

As we pass the halfway mark in our year, we have a clear sense of our current financial situation. Unfortunately, the cost to support our missional ministry is approximately \$6,700 per month more than we are receiving from our various sources of income. While this is consistent with the budget projections at our Vestry Meeting in February, it is not sustainable in the long term. **We need your help.**

Your contributions provide the ability to accomplish the mission actions that God has inspired us to offer through St Cuthbert's. **We need your help.**



Our MAP mission feature this month is our youth music program.

Noted author, feminist and social justice activist, L.R. Knost tells us,

"Music speaks the language of the soul, penetrating into the past and resonating into the future, unearthing pain and tenderness and sorrow and joy, reminding us of our infinite fragility and extraordinary strength, reigniting our dreams and passions once again to remind us of who we are meant to be."



FEATURED MINISTRY

Who has not heard a piece of music and been moved in ways that words cannot express? Science has apparently proven that music has an intense yet positive impact on physical and mental health. Music can boost your mood when you are down, give you energy when you feel low, and inspire you to bring out your creativity.

Music is also a key element in our worship of God, allowing us to express what we might not be able to in normal discourse or conversation.

And so, we come to the Youth Music and Events Players (YMEP) program which is part of our Reshaping Parish Culture to enable Ministry MAP area.

Initiated in June 2022, YMEP now counts over 30 high school students and is led by a professional musician and church volunteers. It meets every Friday night, and has presented two wonderful concerts to our parish, one last Christmas, one in May.

The concerts themselves have been huge successes in engaging the community. But what makes YMEP even more meaningful is the experience and change brought to the youth.

Gifted individually, these teenagers longed for a stage where they could explore music together, share feelings and show their talents, and YMEP answered that need. Here the drummer's rhythm coordinated all other instruments, and a beautiful voice brought together all parts of music and made a wonderful difference. The youth participants became inspired from cooperation as a band and learned how to contribute through teamwork.



What makes this program even more exciting are some of the changes experienced by the young people since joining this group. One parent showed a video clip showing her son fighting for the microphone for a karaoke song, saying, *"He never knew he could sing, now he just can't wait to."* Another mom also shared that her son had always been shy and taciturn, but he is now more open, smiling and interested in communication, which she feels resulted from his gaining confidence from singing in this group. He was also one of the concert MCs.

The current YMEP term is open for recruitment. If you know ANY young people interested in playing in a group, please feel free to introduce us! And if you'd like to contribute to our MAP effort, please see below for details.

St Cuthbert's needs your help to continue this important mission. Please give generously to support us.

Our expenses are well controlled and reasonable. But we need to find ways to increase our revenue. We have four primary sources of revenue that you can help with.

If you have any questions or can help, please reach out to members of the MAP Team, one of the Wardens, Administrator Lori Kennedy or The Ven. Jeff.

