

MEC Church Profile



About Maitland

- Total population of the Maitland Local Government Area (2021) was 90,200. It is still growing with young families coming for work and more affordable housing.
- We have 24,839 people aged between 0-19, which is 3.5% above the national average – making us one of the cradles of the nation. 12,000 of these are between the ages 10-19.
- Over 52% of our people are married (3% above average) and the average household income is slightly above national average at \$1766/week.
- We have well above the national average number of people from an Anglo-Saxon background, however there are increasing opportunities to serve migrants in our city.
- We have significantly more technicians, tradies, labourers and machinery operators than average, and less professionals and managers.
- 41% of the city identify themselves as Catholic or Anglican (compared with 30% of the nation), however, knowledge of the Bible is low, as is church attendance. It is worth noting that a number of Catholic and Anglican clergymen who ministered in Maitland were named in the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

MEC's Mission

To know Christ and make him known by proclaiming the gospel.

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. Luke 19:10.

It is not the healthy who need the doctor, but the sick. I did not come to call the righteous to repentance, but sinners. Luke 5:31.



Key Values

BIBLE CLARITY

2 Timothy 3:16. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

- We prioritise the systematic, expositional preaching of God's word at weekly public gatherings, and the hearing of God's word in many other contexts.
- We nurture a culture of living out God's word in church life, households, and the wider community.
- We value truth and love, word and deed.

HUMILITY

James 3:13. Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

- We recognise our deep need for the saving work of Christ and the helping work of the Holy Spirit, expressed through prayer, Scripture and praise.
- We recognise our need for our fellow sisters and brothers, both at MEC and at other churches, and make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- We welcome people from all backgrounds and are enriched by their contribution.
- In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.

PARTICIPATION

1 Corinthians 12:18. God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

- Every member of the body of Christ using the gifts and seasons that God supplies for the good of the church and the wider community.
- God's people working together, including women and men, old and young.

FLEXIBILITY

1 Corinthians 9:19. I have become all things to all people, so that by all means possible I might save some.

- The good news of Jesus doesn't change, but MEC does.
- We have changed venue, times and ministry programs over the years.
- We see well-managed change as part of gospel growth.

LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP

Colossians 4:7. Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord.

- We value working with like-minded churches, groups and people in the city, the region and the world for the sake of the gospel growing.



Vision Areas:

GATHER

Praying for gospel-rich Sunday gatherings where our unity in Christ is expressed as we respond to God

BELONG

Praying for a community that welcomes, loves and supports each other in response to the belonging found in Christ

GROW

Praying for all to taste the goodness of God the Father in all of life as together we learn and walk in the way of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit

SERVE

Praying for a culture of serving the Lord with gladness

GO

Praying for Holy Spirit compassion for the lost so that people of all ages hear about Christ in ways they can understand, in Maitland and the nations

A Snapshot of MEC Today:

- Medium-sized church with 532 people calling MEC home (350 adults, 182 children)
- A growing church in a growing region, with many newcomers (70 last year; 88 in the first six months of 2024)
- 3 services on a Sunday
- 80% of adults are part of grow groups that meet during the week
- Strong youth and children's programs
- A culture of service (180 adults regularly serving in teams at our Sunday gatherings, and many serving in other ways during the week)
- A focus on evangelism locally (e.g. Life Series & SRE) and to the nations (through several mission partners)
- Part of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC)

