

A full-page background image of a surfer riding a large, dark blue wave with white foam. The surfer is positioned near the top left of the frame, riding a yellow surfboard. The wave is massive and curling, creating a sense of scale and challenge.

DARING FAITH

God is asking us to take a step of Daring Faith together - to attempt great things for Him and to expect great things from Him.

What's your dream for our church? Take a moment to think of someone you know and love who lives here in Ballarat. Maybe they aren't a Christian yet. Maybe they used to follow Christ but have drifted away. Maybe they have a faith but aren't part of a church family. Can you picture them here at church with you? Can you see them getting baptised? Can you see their children at Youth Group or going to Children's Ministry? Imagine them saying to you, 'Thanks for inviting us, we love being part of this church.' Whenever I do this, I find myself dreaming of a church that my children and grandchildren - or people just like them - would love to call their spiritual home. This is my dream for our church.

God has given us a vision to reach the people we know and love: families and friends; children and grandchildren; neighbours and colleagues; different cultures and generations. We see them joining with us as we deepen our commitment to Christ, and as we worship God and love each other — a healthy and growing spiritual family — all for the glory of God.

To achieve this vision, we will need to renovate our facilities. As we look around, it's easy to see how we could improve our ministry by extending and renovating: purpose-built indoor areas for children, youth and young adults; an expanded foyer and café area; a modernised auditorium; more comfortable seating; efficient heating and cooling; better toilets; and more parking are just some of the obvious improvements we'd all like to see.

Will this be easy? No way! Steps of faith are seldom easy. Our plans for the next stage of our church's development are exciting and innovative. They offer opportunities to better serve God in our community. However, they can only become a reality if we all take a personal step of faith together. Will you join us in taking our next step of Daring Faith?

*Blessings,
Mark Dainton, Senior Pastor*

OUR STORY

Beginning in 1859, eight years after the discovery of gold in Ballarat, a humble meeting of 11 individuals went on to form one of the most enduring churches in the Ballarat area.

1864 • Land in Dawson St purchased for a Chapel.

1869 • Dawson St Chapel plants a second church in Ballarat East (Peel Street Church of Christ).

1913 • Dawson St Chapel remodelled and enlarged to fit the growing needs of the community.

1946 • Repairs, painting and maintenance work carried out on the Dawson St Chapel.

1981 • A vision is planted to move into the new growing area of Alfredton.

1996 • Vision 2000 team was formed to plan a relocation.

2000 • Gas & Fuel building (the current church home) was purchased.

2015 • one2one main foyer upgraded.

2023 • Plans to expand our spaces for families.



Dawson St Chapel circa 1879



The new Gillies St South church home is dedicated (2000).



Dawson St Chapel circa 1982



OUR JOURNEY

Over the coming weeks we will be challenged each Sunday to consider the steps of faith God is calling us to take.



KEY DATES

Daring Faith Campaign Launch *Sunday 12th February*

We begin our journey together. Over the next few weeks, let's ask God to show us the steps of Daring Faith he wants us to take.

Pastor John Finkelde - Day of Prayer *Sunday 19th February*

Pastor John Finkelde will be our special guest preacher. Everyone is invited to a special lunch with John who will share some of his experiences of Daring Faith. This is also a Daring Faith 'Day of Prayer'.

Information Sessions *Sunday 26th February*

Information sessions will be held after each service. Come along as we share the building plans with you and offer an opportunity to have your questions answered.

Pastor Blake Moore *Sunday 5th March*

Discover the exciting story of Devonport Church of Christ and their amazing journey of Daring Faith with Pastor Blake Moore.

Day of Prayer *Sunday 19th March*

This is a special day of prayer where everyone is invited to join us for an hour of prayer as well as our usual worship services.

Commitment Sunday *Sunday 26th March*

This is the special Sunday when we invite everyone to make their giving commitment to God. These are confidential commitments. No one will be asked to make their commitment public.

Celebration Sunday *Sunday 2nd April*

Come celebrate! We will publicly announce the total of our commitments towards the Daring Faith campaign and celebrate the way God has worked in our lives.

REASONS TO GIVE

Biblical Values

From the beginning, our church has never wavered from its commitment to the authority of Scripture and to the Great Commandment and Great Commission.

Greater Things

Our vision is to reach people, renew lives and release ministry for the glory of God. There is no purpose or honour or privilege greater than the opportunity to live for God's glory. Whatever our circumstances, we are determined to expect great things from God and attempt great things for God.

Godly Leadership

We stand on the shoulders of generations of godly leaders. Through the history of our church, we have had countless people provide godly leadership and lay biblical foundations that we continue to build upon. Despite challenging circumstances, our generation has continued this tradition of growth over the last decade. Today, we have another exciting opportunity to invest in the next generation - those who will follow in our footsteps.



An artist's impression of an upgraded entrance space to our kids' and youth ministries.

Financial Integrity

Our church has a long history of excellent financial management and a spirit of generosity. Our mortgage from the move to this facility back in 2000 has been repaid. Despite the challenges of COVID over the last 3 years, we have come through in a healthy financial situation. Our faith and generosity will always be challenged as we continue to take further steps of faith into the future.

Family Focus

We love being a family church - genuinely multigenerational and increasingly multicultural. We realise that this means

that we must continue to invest significantly in ministry for the next generation - for our children and grandchildren. Our vision is to be a church with outstanding ministries with children, youth, young adults and families.

Changed Lives

If you have been around our church for a little while, the chances are high that God has used your involvement here to change lives, including your own life. Your support through Daring Faith will help us to continue to renew lives, including yours ... because we believe that there really is more to life.

DISCERNING GOD'S WILL

How do you know what God wants you to give over the next three years? Here are some steps to determine your contribution.

1. Don't Rush Your Decision.

Give yourself time to hear from God. The more time you give to consider your commitment, the more God will build your faith and the more likely you will set yourself up for a miracle. Spend time alone with God each day so you can hear what He is telling you. As you seek His will, God will grow your faith and you will come closer to the miracle he is preparing for you.

2. Pray This Simple Prayer

'Lord, show me how to give in a way that stretches and builds my faith more than ever. I trust you for a miracle.' God is more interested in you trusting Him than in the amount you commit to give. As you pray daily, God will reveal the amount that you can give. If you are married, pray together with your spouse.

3. 'Equal Sacrifice Not Equal Giving.'

Not everyone can give the same amount. God doesn't expect that. The amount we give will be different for each of us. But Daring Faith gives us all an opportunity to make a genuine sacrifice that is a step of faith for us.

4. Include Your Family as Appropriate

If you are married or have children, make sure that you include them. This is an opportunity to learn together about prayer, faith and generosity. Here are some encouraging bible verses you could read together and pray about.

- Proverbs 3:9-10, 11:24-25
- Luke 6:38
- 1 Corinthians 16:1-2
- 2 Corinthians 8:1-12, 9:6-12
- Matthew 6:19-20

5. Decide What God is Asking You to Give

Take some time to ask God what you should give. Trust Him to guide you.

There is an opportunity to give a cash gift now and to make a regular giving commitment for the next 3 years. This allows you to give more than you imagined. As you develop the habit of regular giving, you will be blessed by spiritual growth. See the Daring Faith Commitment Card for details.

6. Join Us to Celebrate Together

Join us for our very special Celebration Sunday on Sunday 2nd April. We will announce the combined total of our Daring Faith commitments and celebrate the wonderful ways that God has worked in our lives during this exciting time together.

'Father, this is a big step for us. Please stretch our faith, strengthen our faith, and deepen our faith. We realize that everything we have comes from You, so we have made our commitment for four reasons. First, to express our gratitude for all you've provided to us in the past. Second, to show our desire for you to be first in our lives. Third, to demonstrate our faith in your promises to provide for us in the future as we honor you now. And finally, to show our love and support for our church family in making a difference for eternity. We are grateful for this opportunity to grow and trust you more. We pray that this church-wide campaign will bring you Glory! In Jesus' name, Amen!'



An artist's impression of our future indoor space for kids' and youth ministries.

**Each person should give
what they have decided
in their heart to give,
not reluctantly or under
compulsion, for God loves a
cheerful giver.
[2 Corinthians 9:7]**

WAYS TO GIVE

- Sacrifice involves giving up something I value, to invest in something that is even more important.**
- 1. Prayerfully consider giving a cash gift now.
 - 2. Prayerfully consider making a 3 year commitment.
You can give far more when it's spread out over time. Refer to the table below and you will be amazed at the potential of your regular giving over three years.
 - 3. Complete your Commitment Card and bring it along on commitment Sunday, 26th March. These are confidential commitments. No one will be asked to make their commitment public.

Examples of How a Little Becomes a Lot

Each of us can give far more than we think by giving it over a three-year period. Here are some examples

Weekly	Monthly	3 Years
\$20	\$86	\$3,120
\$50	\$216	\$7,800
\$100	\$433	\$15,600
\$200	\$866	\$31,200
\$500	\$2,166	\$78,000
\$700	\$3,033	\$109,200
\$1,000	\$4,333	\$156,000

FAQ

1. Is Daring Faith giving different from regular giving?

Yes. The regular weekly offering is required to keep the church's current ministry activities functioning from week to week. Daring Faith contributions are made in addition to regular offerings.

2. Why does the church need to grow?

We believe that we should always make room for growth, as long as there are people in Ballarat, people we know and love, who don't yet know Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour.

3. Will I be asked to make my commitment public?

No. Your contribution to Daring Faith is made on the Commitment Card and is between you and God. While the Church will track progress as part of our financial management, all commitments will be treated in the strictest confidence.

4. If I should fall behind on my commitment, will the church make efforts to make me pay?

No. While we will track commitments, maintaining your commitment is an issue between you and God.

5. What if my circumstances change?

You can revise your commitment at any time. Please just let our Church Business Manager know of any changes. If your circumstances become difficult, please let us know as we would love to pray with you and see how the church might be able to assist you.

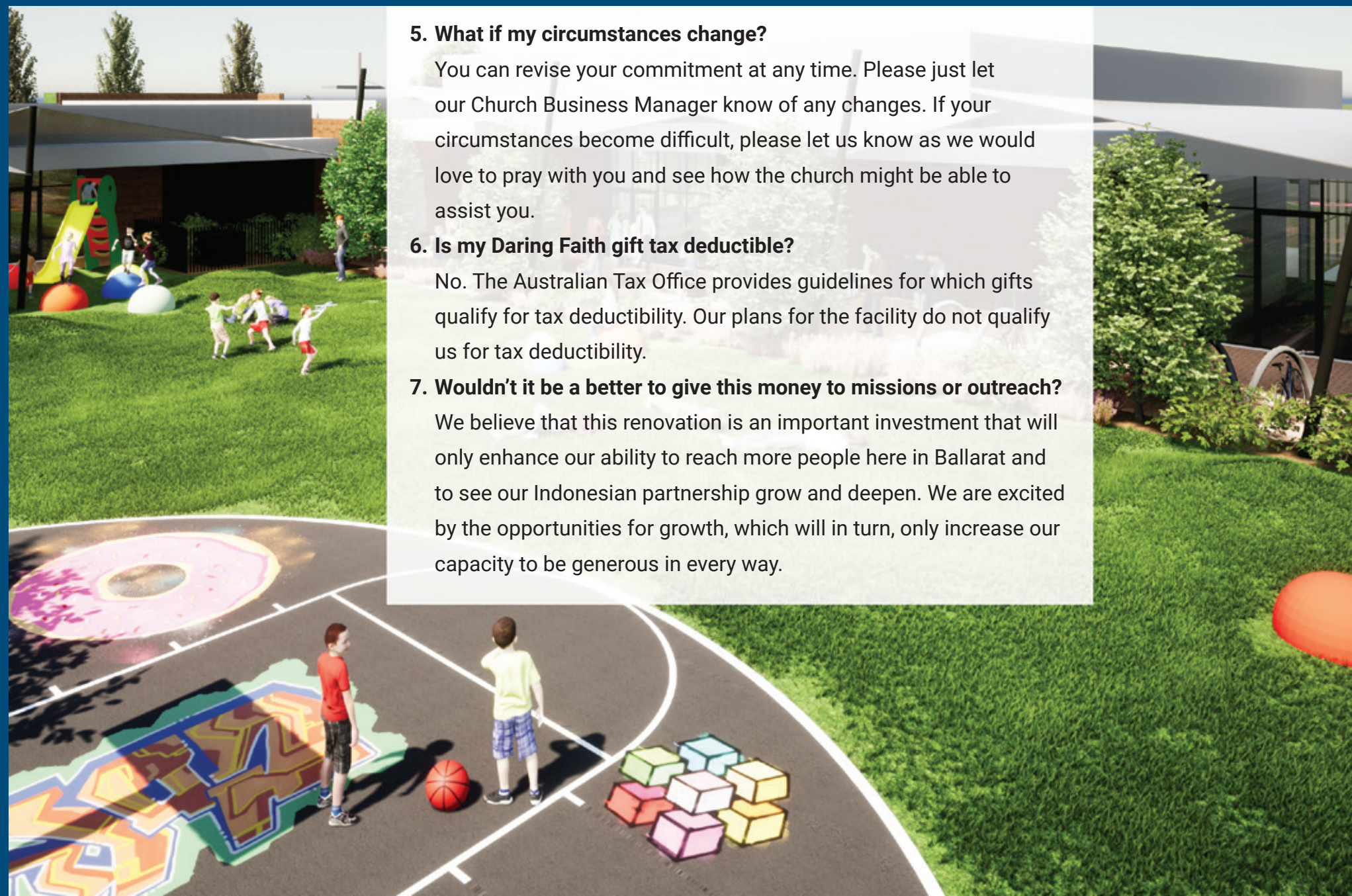
6. Is my Daring Faith gift tax deductible?

No. The Australian Tax Office provides guidelines for which gifts qualify for tax deductibility. Our plans for the facility do not qualify us for tax deductibility.

7. Wouldn't it be a better to give this money to missions or outreach?

We believe that this renovation is an important investment that will only enhance our ability to reach more people here in Ballarat and to see our Indonesian partnership grow and deepen. We are excited by the opportunities for growth, which will in turn, only increase our capacity to be generous in every way.

Artist impression, outdoor family courtyard





one2one
CHURCH OF CHRIST †

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