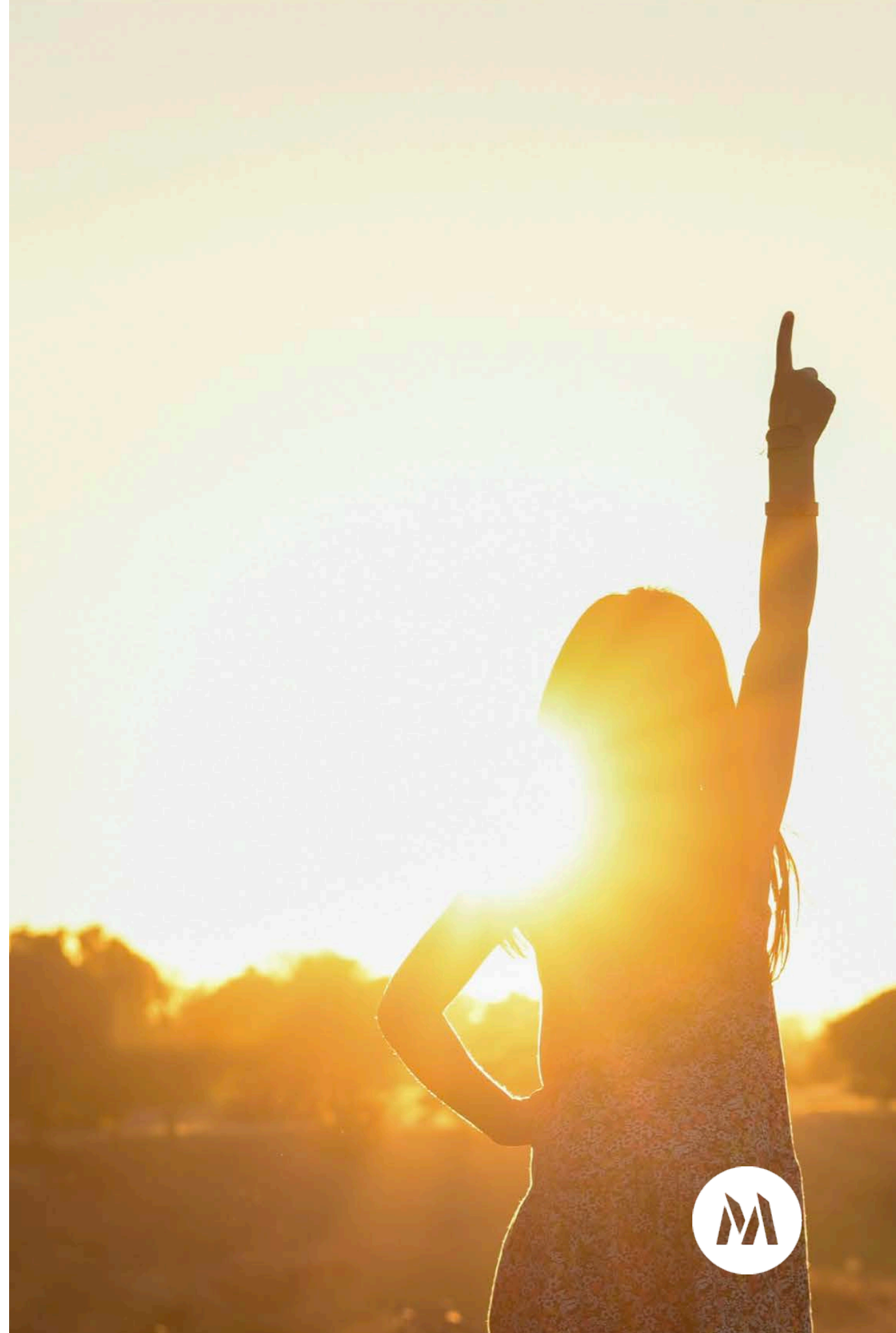




The whole  
*Church* with the  
whole *Gospel* for  
the whole *City*.

*Work* hard to live *together* as *one* by the help of the Holy Spirit. Then there will be *peace*. There is *one* body and *one* Spirit. There is *one* hope in which you were called. There is *one* Lord and *one* faith and *one* baptism. There is *one* God. He is the Father of us all. He is over us all. He is the *One* working through us all. He is the *One* living in us all.

EPHESIANS 4:1-6 (NLV)



*Together, local Ministers, local  
Christian leaders, local  
churches and local  
organisations are uniquely  
positioned to bring social,  
cultural and spiritual change  
in their city, for their city.*

**You are the Movement.**





*‘Work for the well-being of the city where I have sent you to and pray to the Lord for this. For if it is well with the city you live in, it will be well with you.’*



- Who** ..... Movement is a new paradigm in Church culture where Ministers, Christian leaders, the local church and local organisations
- What** ..... come together in *relational unity, reconciled diversity* to *understand* and *envision* the unique story and pain of their city and engage *collaboratively* to bring solutions that will
- Why** ..... permeate their city with a generous localised *Gospel* that releases *beauty* and *shalom*.
- How** ..... This *catalytic* paradigm is *championed* and *empowered* through local round tables, workshops, action teams, prayer and city gatherings called *Movement Day*.





**SHALOM** *def. (plural)*

The completeness, fullness,  
welfare, rest, wholeness,  
soundness, peace, safety and  
well-being that God wants  
for your city.



## Cities matter

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Cities and towns have families, neighbourhoods, workplaces and institutions that *bring people together*.

They have street life, marketplaces, meeting places and *more person-to-person interactions in a day than are possible anywhere else*.

There is a day to day cultural exchange of attitudes, values, beliefs, goals, social practices and the impact of shared joy and pain.

*Each of our cities is unique with its own culture, history, problems and assets.*

Cities can be *powerful* places that create business and employment, research and learning, artistic development and social and spiritual connection.

Our cities are also in great *pain*, where the most *vulnerable* are at risk - loneliness, poverty, domestic violence, sexual abuse, crime and corruption, injustice, homelessness, family breakdown, stress...

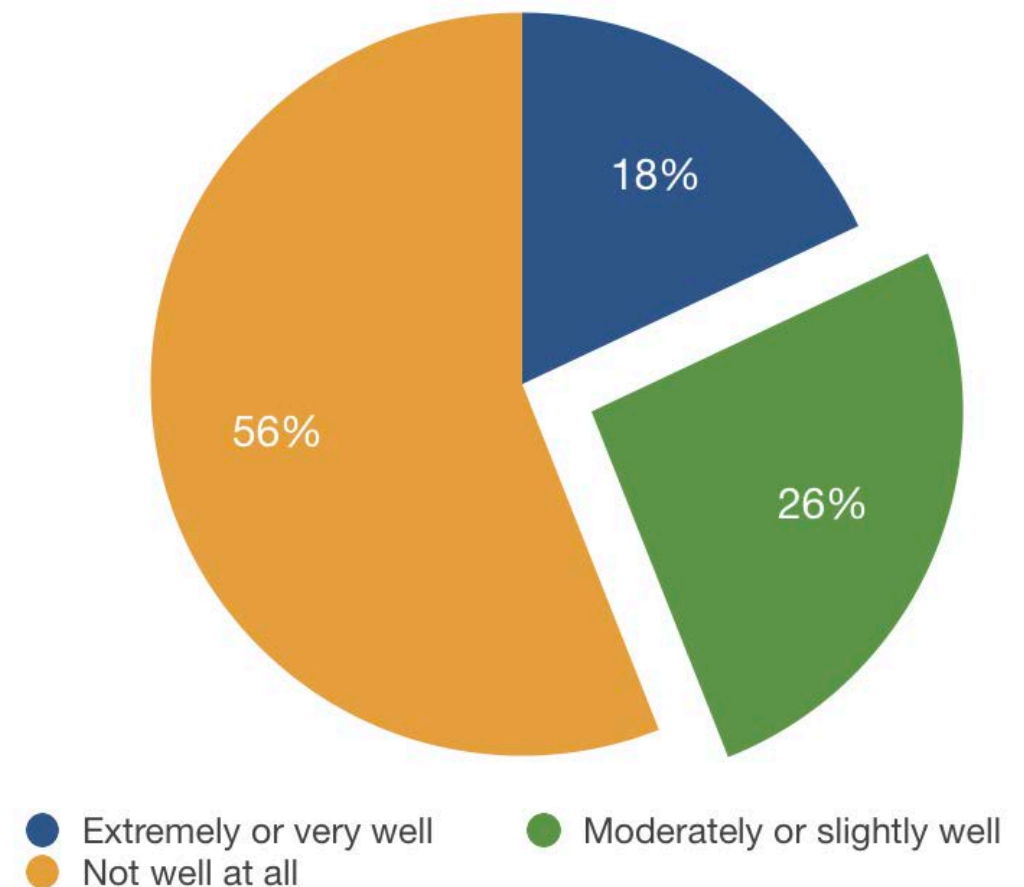






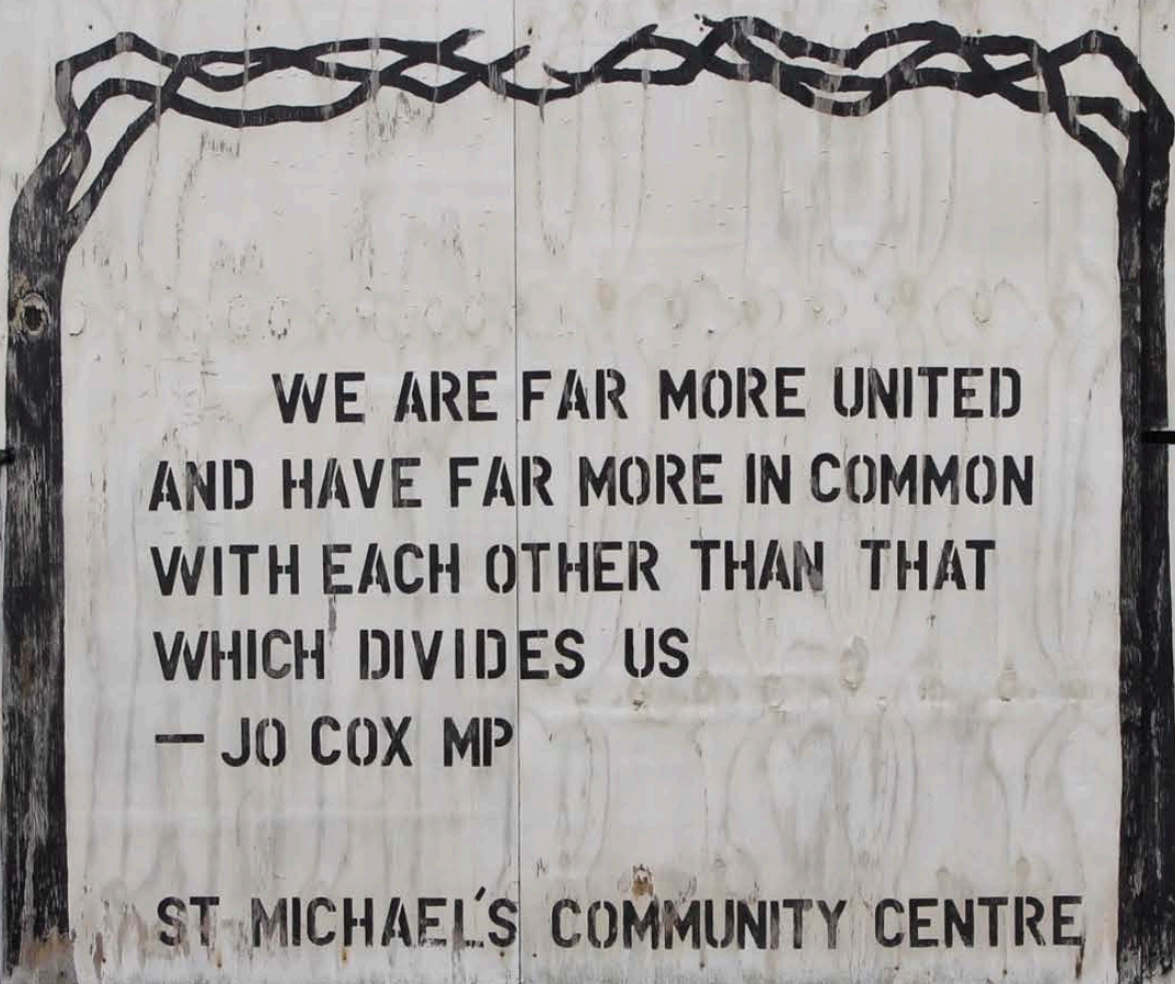
The Church used to be an *integrated* part of every city and town.

Despite 45% of Australians identifying with Christianity how well do Australians *know* their local church today?



*Imagine* what could happen in Australian cities if 13,000 Churches & 12 million Australians who identify as Christian came together *in their city for their city*.





**WE ARE FAR MORE UNITED  
AND HAVE FAR MORE IN COMMON  
WITH EACH OTHER THAN THAT  
WHICH DIVIDES US  
— JO COX MP**

**ST MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY CENTRE**





# Churches join forces to change their city

REBECCA ABBOTT | NOVEMBER 14TH, 2019 03:26 PM | 💬 0 COMMENTS

Churches from across the Sydney suburb of Ryde will meet with the local council this Sunday to create a blueprint for change in their city.

The meeting is the idea of Ryde Pastor's Network – a group of 11 pastors from the local Salvation Army, Baptist, Presbyterian, Wesley, Anglican and Lutheran churches.

"We're looking to stop just pastoring a flock and to start pastoring the city," explains Greigory Whittaker, leader of Ryde Salvation Army.

The City of Ryde – 12 kilometres west of Sydney's CBD – spans sixteen suburbs (including Ryde itself). It is home to around 128,000 people, of which around half were born overseas. The population is growing by 2.5 per cent a year – 56 per cent above the national average. According to a report in *The Australian*, the area is suffering from "growing pains", such as traffic congestion, overcrowded schools and hospitals, and increased crime.

The Ryde Pastor's Network, along with some congregation members, is meeting with a Ryde councillor and council members to discuss a collective response to other key social issues affecting the local community, including pornography, prostitution, domestic violence and mental illness.

"We're looking at the 'tears in our city' – the particular issues that are broken in our city – and looking to launch engagement groups in each of those categories," explains Whittaker.

Around 110 people are expected to attend the four-hour meeting, which will begin with a lunch where council and church members can get to know each other. Afterwards, council members will share their ideas about the major social issues affecting Ryde.

Experts will then present short talks on some of the issues, including Christian lawyer Steve Frost, who will speak about domestic violence from his experience supporting clients in this situation. Prominent anti-porn campaigner Letitia Shelton will talk about her work in battling pornography (as CEO of City Women Toowoomba). She will also share her vision about city-wide transformation and how to engage people in it.

A practical brainstorming session will follow, to workshop ideas which can address issues.

"We very much believe that people need to build it together, not come to a pre-described plan of action," says Whittaker. "We are really looking to be the ones who release diverse groups across the body of Christ and have them develop their community engagement together."

*"We're very focused on a city outlook, but we're building the foundations for that on strong relationships and prayer."*  
– Greigory Whittaker

The Ryde Pastor's Network, which began meeting monthly almost three years ago, has 11 pastors involved.

"We've spent time really building trust and relationships. We're very focused on a city outlook, but we're building the foundations for that on strong relationships and prayer," Whittaker explains.

The network has already created a sub-committee to work on creating good communities in high-rise apartment towers.

"We've joined with Macquarie University to do a research piece on 'vertical villages'," says Whittaker.

Findings from the 12-month research project will be released in late 2020. "Again, we're looking at serving the body of Christ by making [the report findings] widely available. We're looking to end up with a toolkit for engaging with those in high-rise living, and a bunch of outcomes."

One of these outcomes could be pathways for churches to work with developers and councils in the planning of "socially integrated communities" in and around high-rise complexes, where a church plant could even be opened on site.

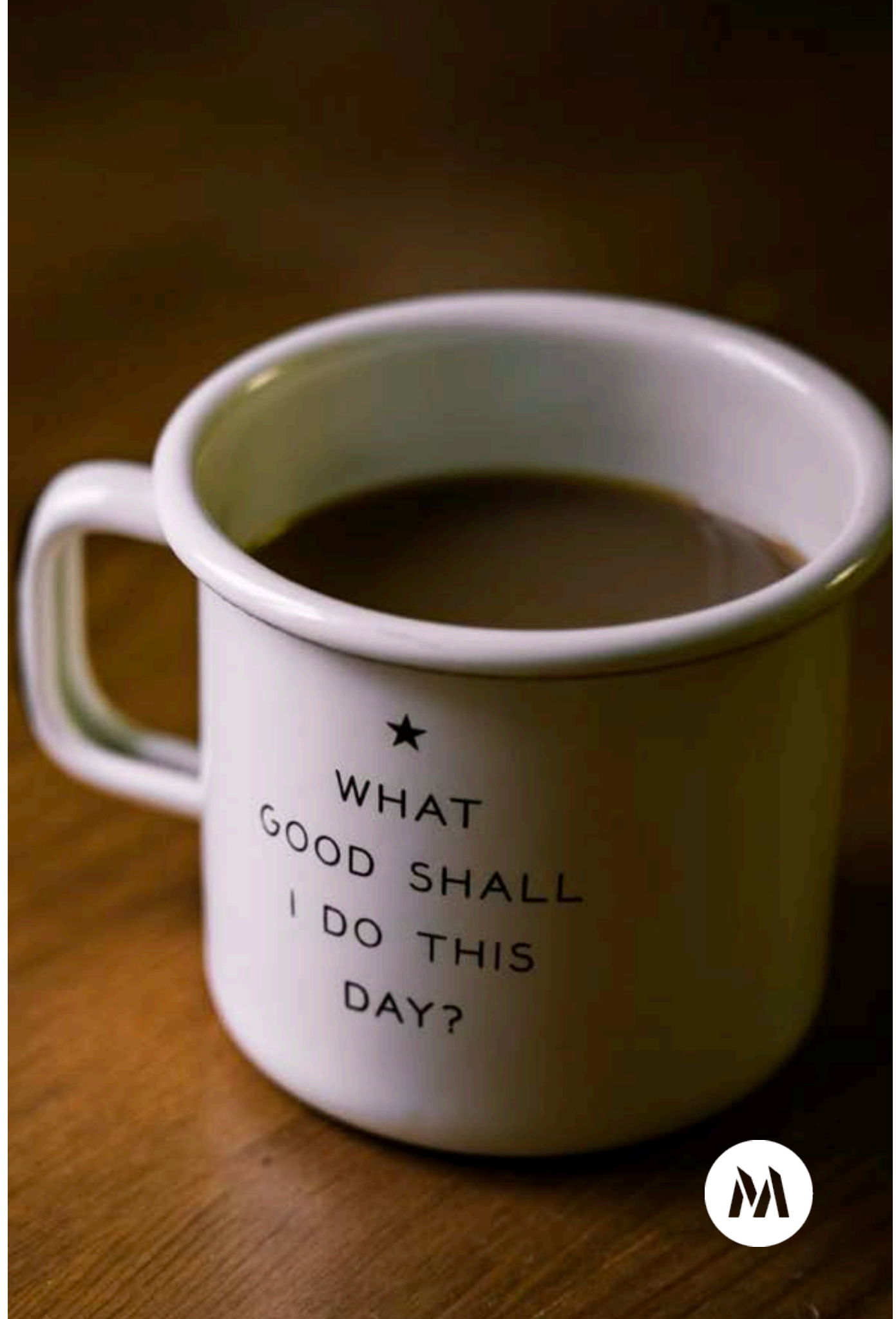
Following Sunday's meeting with the council, Ryde Pastor's Network hopes to launch cross-denominational engagement groups to respond to the community needs identified.

"The pastors really see themselves as not responsible for doing everything, but as the releasers, the resourcers, the encouragers and to keep accountable the various streams of activity in serving the city," says Whittaker



**The good  
influence of  
Godly citizens  
causes a city to  
prosper.**

PROVERBS 11:11 (Living Bible)



# Movement goals and values

1. Our cities and towns
2. A Biblical call to relational unity
3. A Gospel for all things
4. A generous and releasing leadership
5. The direction of Holy Spirit
6. Connection and collaboration
7. Innovation and Creativity
8. Research driven initiatives
9. Measurable impact
10. A Long term and generational mindset





Do you believe that your city or town belongs to God?

Do you believe that your city or town has a unique God given story?

Do you believe that the Gospel can develop beauty and Shalom in your city or town?

Do you come together as local Ministers, Christian leaders, churches and organisations in reconciled diversity for your city or town?

Are the local Ministers, Christian leaders and churches in your city or town known and trusted for their service, generosity and humility?

Do the local Ministers, Christian leaders and churches in your city or town accept responsibility for the pain points that affect human flourishing in your city?

Do you connect with other local Ministers, Christian leaders, churches and organisations in your city or town to develop and action Gospel inspired solutions to local issues?

DREAM  
BIG.





**The Movement Team  
are here to support  
you and see the work  
in your city flourish**

### **Come to a Movement Day gathering in your city**

Major events that are held every 1-3 years and act as an accelerator for the long term vision of releasing beauty and shalom in Australian cities and towns.

Each Movement Day Gathering is between 1-3 days where the majority of Church Pastors and Christian Leaders gather to *celebrate, connect, collaborate, catalyse, commission* and tell Movement Stories that inspire action in other leaders to envisage and release beauty and shalom in their cities and towns.

### **Come to a Movement Day round table in your city**

These are smaller more targeted workshops, meetings, meals or prayer times that network Christian Pastors and leaders across city spheres to release city wide beauty and shalom.

### **Create or Join a Movement Day action team in your city**

These are focused meetings that bring together a team of local people to work on specific issues facing their city or town.

### **Check out Movement resources on our website**

[www.movement.org.au](http://www.movement.org.au)





**You will be  
known as  
Repairers of the  
Cities and  
Restorers of  
Communities.**

ISAIAH 58:12 (RSV)





A person wearing a dark t-shirt and a grey beanie stands in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. Their arms are outstretched horizontally to the sides. In the background, a dense line of green trees covers a hillside under a bright, hazy sky. The overall lighting is warm and golden, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

May Your  
Kingdom  
come, may  
Your will be  
done on earth,  
as it is in  
Heaven.

MATTHEW 6:9-13 (GNT)





