

When Dennis & I first decided to move to Newcastle, one of our first priorities was to find a church we could call home. After a few false starts we settled on



Mayfield. The beginning, as with the present is marked in my memory ***as a place where people welcomed us & made us feel at home.***

We've always felt supported by the people of Mayfield Baptist. As a young newly married couple, as young parents and now as we continue to look into the future & our children start to leave home. It's been a wonderful privilege to be part of the team at MBC & to be involved in shaping the church & its impact into the community. Learning to be part of a church family, with all the strengths & challenges that it entails has enabled me to deepen my personal relationship with God.

Thank you Mayfield Baptist Church for allowing me to fail and succeed and change and grow and for still loving me.

~ Heather Malone



Bronwyn - a Mayfield girl, grows up in the church, goes out with, gets engaged and marries the pastor's son, and in the next 3 years has 2 beautiful boys & gets widowed, all before she turned 22. A few years later marries...

...Max - an itinerant gossamer, fruit picker, farm labourer and welfare worker. 20 years later (add 2 gorgeous girls and many adventures later, ie overseas trips, around Australia in 13 months, etc).

We are still married, still committed to the kingdom and working with the church to be salt and light in the community.

Helping people to experience the goodness of God... through service & exposure to our local schools, & in the work of the church on the street frontline at mayCARE - for a place "for anyone who needs a little something".

Max spent 9 years as MBC Youth Pastor, and since then, shared the role with Bronwyn as Community Pastors.

~ Max & Bronwyn Greive

*what mbc
means to me...*



The past nineteen months have gone quickly, and although much happened, I feel we have settled well into this part of our life's journey.

Arriving to a new place, leaving family and friends of over a decade behind,

and facing the idea of re-establishing again was made so much easier by folk at MBC. Whether it was the desire to check out the new principal's wife or just my charm, wit and personality, ladies at Mayfield have gone out of their way to help the new girl on the block.

It's been opportunities to share a coffee &/or a shoulder have highlighted to me Jesus in action.

~Sandie Fyson

Mayfield Baptist Church has been my home church for nearly 20 years now, and honestly, I couldn't imagine a life without it!



what mbc

So much has happened in my 20 years of life, & most memories revolve around the church; weddings, girls brigade, Sunday school, youth group, & the list could go on. It's an amazing feeling to know that I have friends that are my family - I always have someone to lean on, & share life's awesome moments with.

The people of Mayfield Baptist have raised me up and helped me to find my place in ministry. It's such a privilege to be part of the worship team & help organize the Creche group. I am constantly amazed to see God work **through the worship** to the community, & around the world. I'm excited about seeing the future of Mayfield Baptist & what place it holds for me.

~ Chantelle Malone



what mbc means to me...

Mayfield means more than being back in the building where I came to the Lord 25 years ago. Mayfield is about people who can love a square peg in a round hole and I guess I am a square peg!

How do you describe the warmth you feel when you get to catch up with people who see you through Jesus' eyes?
How do you describe the people who have loved you through both life's highs & lows?

It is not only a family, it is a community

that accompanies you patiently as you struggle with being part of anything at times. It is being prayed for when you don't always know who is doing the praying, it is the meals that appear at just the right moment and the hand on your arm to remind you that you are loved. It is being listened to when you do most of the talking! Mayfield is always changing but to me the things that matter seem to stay the same.



~ Jenny Allen

It would be easy to say MBC is the place I come to worship God, but Mayfield Baptist is much more than that to me.

what mbc means to me...

For me, MBC

is a safe place, it is a place of friendships, love, commitment, trust and very often accountability.

My closest friends are members here, my family has generations of history from my Great Grandfather through to the present. So my ties are very strong in this place. MBC is the place where I have come to know & experience Jesus' love & acceptance of me as a unique individual whom He has gifted for His purposes.

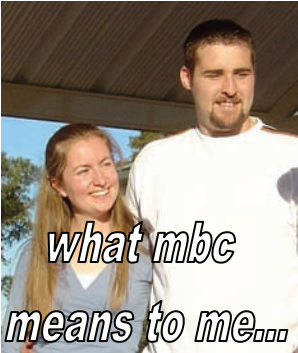
I am grateful that this church exists and continues to look to God "the author and finisher" for our identity in the community that is Mayfield.



~ Helen Henderson

To me Mayfield Baptist is a place of Fun, Growth Inspiration.

A place where anything can happen & often does. A hive of activity where there is always something happening. A warm & open place accepting to all, with wonderful people truly interested in you & not what you can offer (but if you're willing to offer then there are heaps of opportunities!). Great stories to tell about an amazing past, with an open book as our future; building God's Kingdom is our Goal.



This place has many special memories, making good friends and meeting my wife. ***I have had many opportunities to grow as I have explored my God given gifts.***

I personally have seen amazing things happen through GK's, Young Adults and Nite-Care and many other ministries within the church.

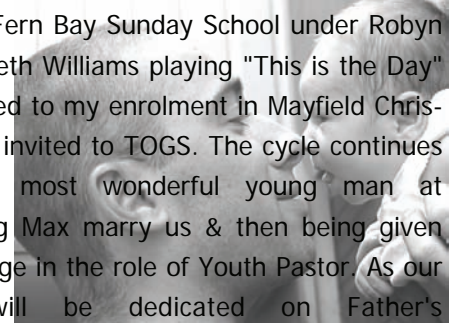
What is MBC to me? It's a place for all, including me!!!

~ Scott Warner



what mbc means to me... the pivotal point in almost a full cycle of God working in my life.

At age 3, I sat in the Fern Bay Sunday School under Robyn Williams with Elizabeth Williams playing "This is the Day" on the piano. This led to my enrolment in Mayfield Christian School & being invited to TOGS. The cycle continues with meeting the most wonderful young man at youth group, having Max marry us & then being given the awesome privilege in the role of Youth Pastor. As our first daughter will be dedicated on Father's Day,



I reflect upon the indescribable blessing the family of MBC has been to me. MBC represents the very best parts of my life, the most challenging times of growth and the very deepest feelings of love that I have experienced for and from my church family.

Thankyou Lord for MBC!

~ Di Ponsen



On the night of the Church Anniversary, (53 yrs ago) I listened to what the speaker had to say. ***I realised I should be doing something with my life as I now knew it was God speaking to me.***

I was stubborn, but talked to my girlfriend as we walked to Waratah where she lived. I was willing to walk away from her that night, but God would not let me go. I went & talked to her dad, Mr Yates, about it & he led me to the Lord. ***God accepted me with all my brokenness and strife... From then on my life changed in all ways.***

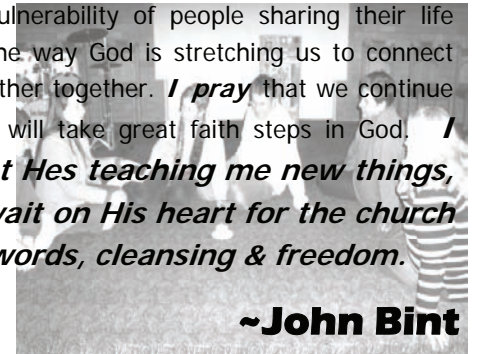
My girlfriend, Margaret, became my wife 18 months later and ***the Church Anniversary weekend has always been very special to both Margaret & myself...*** It's now 53 years since that night & the Lord has enabled me to serve Him within the Church, including 25 years as Treasurer here at MBC.

~ Fred Saunders



I was one of five, mostly YA's, armed with my 3 minute 'sermon'. I was 19yo & with the others was about to be let loose on the Youth Service here at MBC. I've looked back on some of those notes & cringed & giggled.

means to me... One of the many things that Mayfield means to me, is that I was given a go. My gifting & call to pastoral ministry was nurtured & celebrated. Robyn and I felt the collective joy of the church following our journey. Now for the past 5½ years, I've felt affirmed & embraced as Pastor, not 'little Johnny Bint', who grew up here. ***I love*** watching us here at MBC continue to give people a go & nurturing and celebrating their journey into whatever God has for them. ***I love*** us looking & going beyond the walls. ***I love*** the growing openness & vulnerability of people sharing their life journey. ***I love*** the way God is stretching us to connect with Him as we gather together. ***I pray*** that we continue to be people who will take great faith steps in God! ***I thank God that Hes teaching me new things, as I learn to wait on His heart for the church & release His words, cleansing & freedom.***



~John Bint



Happy 80th birthday Mayfield. It's hard to imagine because I'm only a baby at 29years. Coming from a predominantly non Christian family, my faith journey would prove to be a rocky one. I was fortunate that neighbours, The Anderson's, lived down the street and were always there for me. They often were the only Christian connection I had.

I started attending Mayfield Baptist around the age of 18. I found this to be home real fast. ***MBC filled many gaps in my empty life.*** MBC has always been there for me, I was baptized here, & I'm approaching my 4th year anniversary. Through Hunter Harvest '03, my recommitment to God was secure.

In 2003 I met God more personally in Russia, of all places, I couldn't have imagined just how much of the Christian message I thought I knew but totally had NO IDEA. Thanks for encouraging & growing me, sharing my spiritual journey, it's been wild, but I wouldn't have had it any other way. Helping with Nightcare shows me God's wonders each & everyday.

~ Paula Chesterfield



Mayfield is my spiritual home!!!



I began attendance in my late teens and it is where God claimed me as His' own. It's where, for more than 30 years, He has continued to change me to look more & more like His Son Jesus Christ. It's where my wider family & friends meet & care for me & I for them. It is where God has used my heart for serving His people in ministry.

It is where my heart for those who do not yet know Jesus finds ministry opportunities. It is where I my children where raised and my grandchildren are being raised. It is where I love to be.

~ Bruce Watts