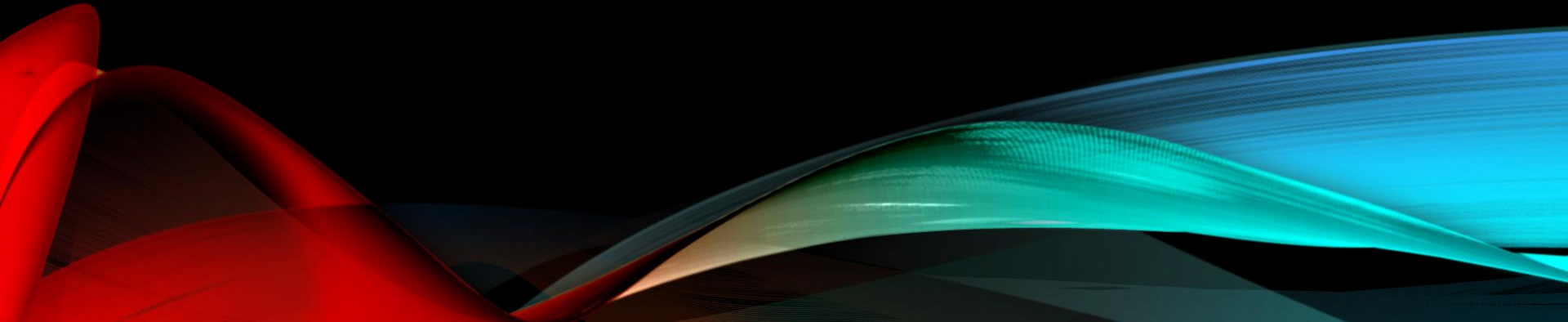




EQUIP NIGHT

Wednesday 2nd August, 2017

THE HARVEST & GCNA



THE HARVEST

MATTHEW 9:35-38

35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

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THE HARVEST IS STILL PLENTIFUL

- Population of the Gold Coast – 567,644
- Northern Gold Coast – 179,458 (31.6% of the GC)
 - Doesn't include Arundel, Parkwood or Labrador which could add up to 40,000 more people
- By comparison...
 - Toowoomba has a population of approximately 114,000
 - Chelmer-Graceville (Michael Stalley's parish) has a population of approximately 6800
- (<http://profile.id.com.au/gold-coast/home>)

THE HARVEST IS STILL PLENTIFUL

- According to the ABS
- Jacobs Well – Alberton – 3878
- Ormeau – Yatala – 20,195
- Pimpama – 8,161
- Coomera – 13,324
- Upper Coomera – Willowvale – 32,058
- Hope Island – 10,591
- Oxenford – Maudsland – 16,490



THE HARVEST IS STILL PLENTIFUL

- Pacific Pines – 18,824
- Helensvale – 18,339
- Coombabah – 10,797
- Paradise Point – Holywell – 9,702
- Runaway Bay – 9867
- Biggera Waters – 7,231
- Labrador – 18,892
- Arundal – 10,601
- Parkwood – 8,900

THE HARVEST WILL BE MORE PLENTIFUL

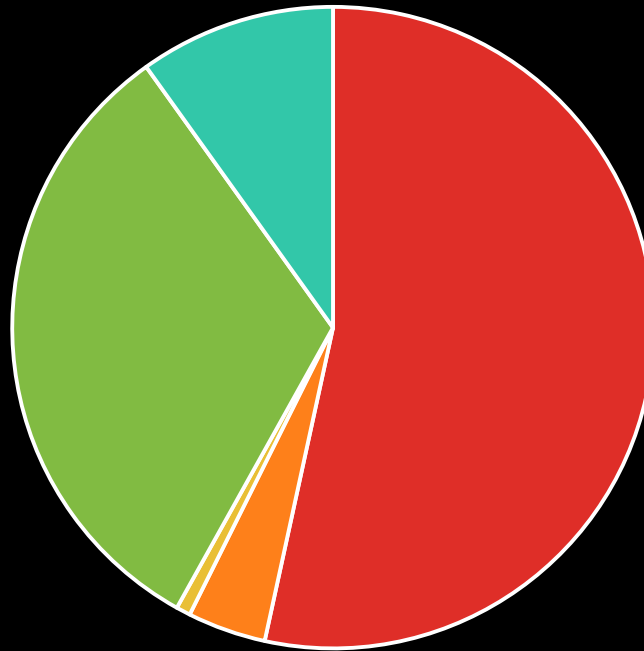
- Queensland Government Projections to 2031
- In 14 years time...
- The GC is expected to grow by 134,000 people (the largest of any LGA)
- Most growth expected to be people under 35 and over 65
- 2006 – 466,433
- 2021 – 677,929
- 2031 – 798,417
- (<http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/reports/qld-govt-pop-proj-lga/qld-govt-pop-proj-lga-2011-edn.pdf>)

THE HARVEST WILL BE MORE PLENTIFUL

- According to the ABS in 2016
- Christians – 297,000
- Non-Christian – 22,000
- Non-Classifiable – 4,000
- No Religion – 178,000
- Not Stated – 55,000
- (<http://profile.id.com.au/gold-coast/religion>)

THE HARVEST WILL BE MORE PLENTIFUL

Religion on the Gold Coast



■ Christian ■ Non Christian ■ Non Classifiable ■ No Religion ■ Not Stated

THE HARVEST WILL BE MORE PLENTIFUL

- In terms of Christian denominations in 2016
- Roman Catholics are the largest – 115,000
 - Was 115,000 in 2011
 - 20.8% of the population down from 23.3%
- Anglicans are the second largest – 90,000
 - Down from 103,500 a decline of 13,500 people
 - 16.1% of the population down from 20.9%

THE HARVEST WILL BE MORE PLENTIFUL

- Don't despair!
- If 31.6% of the Anglicans live in our Parish...
- It means that there should be 28,440 Anglicans
- If they all turned up to church on Sunday it would mean...
- 9,480 people per church (3 churches)
- 5,688 people per Sunday service (5 services)
- We would need to run 60 services on a Sunday to fit everyone in (based upon a combined seating capacity of 540)
- And that doesn't include reaching reaching any of the 73,628 No Religion and Non Stateds living in our Parish

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BUT WAIT... THERE IS MORE

- There is a huge need we need to respond to...
- 17.2% of the GC is a one parent family
- 23.1% of the GC is a lone person family
- 12.4% speak a language other than English at home
- 4.9% have a profound or severe disability
- 12% are under the age of 9
- 4% are over the age of 80

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THE LABOURERS...

- GCNA has an approximate Sunday attendance of between 250-300 people
- As a guestimate we have between 400-500 people connected with our parish (i.e. would attend church during the year or call us their church)
- We have a great group of people serving
 - At least 200 is the best guestimate
- We have quite a number who are leading (again not sure how many)



THE LABOURERS

- We need more labourers... how do we get them?
- Ephesians 4 gives us a few clues...

CREATING LABOURERS

EPHESIANS 4:7, 11-13

7 But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

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PRAYING FOR LABOURERS

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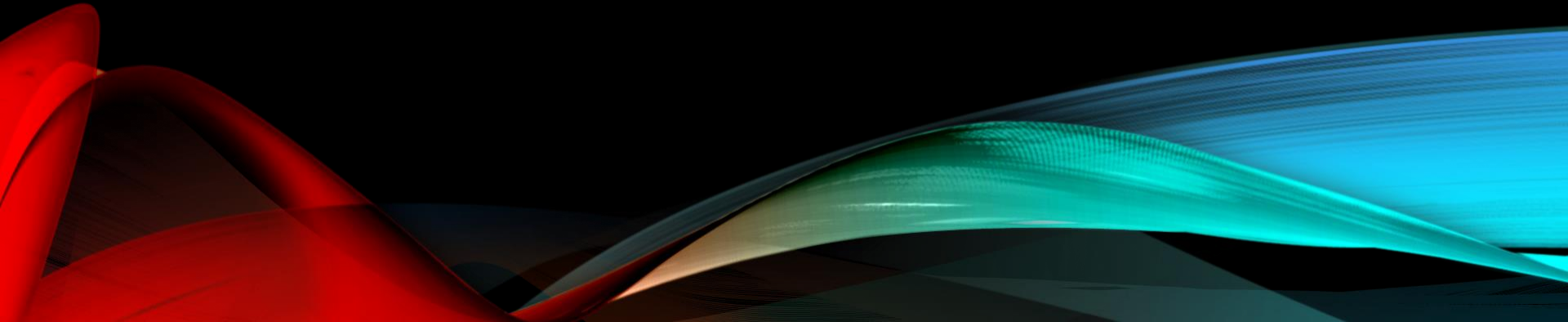
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PRAYING FOR LABOURERS

- We need to pray for labourers
- And train and equip the labourers

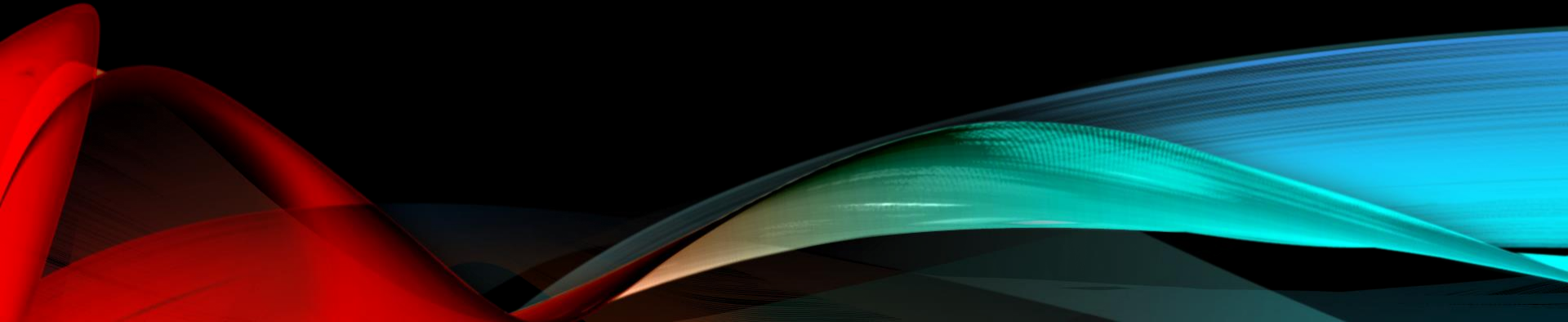
DISCUSSION GROUPS



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- Who were the labourers that made a difference in your Christian journey?
- How do you feel about the potential harvest in our Parish? What excites you? What intimidates you?
- Do you see yourself as a labourer? Why or why not?
- What skills or knowledge do you need to be a more effective labourer?

PRAYER



PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the harvest
- Pray for our current labourers
- Pray for more labourers
- Pray for labourer trainers & support staff
 - Parish Administrator
 - Parish Associate
- Those in need
 - Alison Boniface & the Boniface Family
- Your own needs



THANK YOU