



**Newsletter #31**

**18<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**St. David's Presbyterian Church, Toukley**

*Our vision: is by the year 2030 to transform our community with the love of our Lord Jesus*

*Over the past month we have enjoyed being able to resume face-to-face services, while also connecting with our members online.*

*While we have enjoyed being able to meet face-to-face, it is important that we remain patient and take a more conservative approach when thinking about resuming more activities. Based on the older demographic of our congregation and the higher associated risks, this also means we need to remain strict in some of the controls to ensure those attending feel safe.*

*Therefore, we will continue with the following measures for face-to-face services:*

- *Maximum allowed numbers: To ensure we can adhere to the social distancing requirements; we can only allow 50 people in the Church building and 20 in the Hall. As a result, we will overflow members into the hall in the event that we have more than 50 people attending.*
- *Registration: To ensure we do not exceed our maximum allowed numbers; you are required to register before attending. We ask that you please reach out to Lina to register before attending on Sunday. This will help us to get an indication of expected numbers. (You do not need to register again, if you have already registered as part of attending the service on Sunday)*
- *When you arrive, the following process will be followed when you arrive at Church:*
  - *While wearing face masks is not mandatory, they are encouraged in particular where social distancing cannot be maintained.*
  - *Your temperature may be taken using a laser thermometer, and you will not be allowed to enter the Church if your temperature is above 37.2 degrees*
  - *Your details will be registered to ensure we have a record of who attended, and so that we can contact you should there be a need*
  - *You will be required to use the hand sanitiser upon entry, and follow the social distancing rules at all times*
  - *You will also not be allowed to attend if you show any flu, cold or COVID symptoms. Therefore, please do not attend church face-to-face if you have ANY flu, cold or COVID like symptoms.*
  - *In the event that we reach the 50 maximum attendee number in the Church, people will be asked to overflow to the Hall.*

**Resuming additional activities:** *We are also grateful that we have been able to resume the craft group, and that Jaffa & Xcelerate will resume again next Friday. To ensure we can contain any potential risks, and to stay on top of strict hygiene and cleaning requirements, we are only looking to resume our youth groups and Craft in Term 4. Over time we will monitor and resume more activities based on how the COVID situation continues. Unfortunately, this also means we cannot resume with serving morning tea, or using the kitchen for any other activities. This is based on the potential risks around sharing of food, and the strict hygiene and social distancing requirements.*

*We will continue with online services, as well as the distribution of sermon packs, to ensure we still reach and connect with everyone.*

***The safety of our church family is always our first priority and we will therefore continue to monitor the situation closely each week.*** *We continue to monitor and*

follow government and Church Office guidelines and recommendations. Therefore, all of the above will be reviewed at each Session meeting, or as needed should the situation change.

### **Offerings**

**Your offering to support the work of our church can be deposited into the Church Bank Account: Greater Bank: BSB: 637-000 & Account: 781725919.**

We are very thankful to God for the generosity of our Church Family!

### **Growth Group/Bible Studies**

**Bible study available on-line – Tuesdays at 3:30pm and Wednesday at 7pm.**

There is a face to face Bible Study at Ian Douglas', on Tuesday's at 3pm.

### **Prayers**

- ❖ Please continue to pray for God's comfort & peace for **Leon Walther & family** grieving the loss of dear Bev; and for **Beverley Rapmund & family** grieving the loss of dear Harold.
- ❖ Pray for **Rob & Chris Smillie's granddaughter, Haley**, as she continues to have further tests as an outpatient; praise God she is home from hospital.
- ❖ Pray for **Pam Charlesworth**, awaiting further surgery following recent biopsies.
- ❖ Pray for **Rosemary Gough** waiting to have treatment for an oesophagus problem.
- ❖ Pray for **Jade Nocera's father, Mick**, having cancer treatment.
- ❖ Pray for **Penny Macdonald** recovering from a very painful shoulder and shingles.
- ❖ Pray for **Joy Millican's sister** who is unwell at this time.
- ❖ Pray for **Denise Bell** undergoing various tests for a brain condition.
- ❖ Pray for **Lyn Peter's husband, Warren**, recovering well from recent knee surgery.
- ❖ Pray for **Jan Mackinnon** recovering well from a fractured shoulder.
- ❖ Pray for **Ann Ross** having rehabilitation after hip surgery. Expected home this week.
- ❖ Pray for **Lorraine Griffiths** waiting to have treatment for an oesophagus problem and for **her husband, Ray**, recovering from shoulder surgery last Tuesday.
- ❖ Pray for **Lorraine Lee** recovering from surgery last Friday.
- ❖ Pray for **Madeleine Fraser** recovering well from recent hip surgery.
- ❖ Pray for **Rev Peter Dunstan** undergoing further tests for liver condition.
- ❖ Pray for **Ian Douglas** recovering from spinal surgery last Thursday.
- ❖ Pray for **Jan Dhu** who has been diagnosed as needing kidney dialysis and **Jan's husband, Dudley**, as he copes with the decision not to go ahead with the replacement of his feeding peg.
- ❖ Pray for **Judy Roberts** recovering well from skin cancer surgery.
- ❖ Pray for **Rev Sue Ballard** for healing for a broken arm.
- ❖ Pray for **Esmā Marstaeller**, recovering from a mysterious virus.
- ❖ Pray for **Wendy Crysell**, recovering from fractured arm and shoulder dislocation.
- ❖ Pray for **Philip Carter**, recovering well from cataract surgery this week.
- ❖ Pray for **Toni & Andy Quennell's friend, Shane**, battling stage 4 cancer.
- ❖ Pray for the little boy of the family who are renting the church manse, who is very sick; he apparently has a blood clot on the brain and the family finds it emotionally very difficult. He has been in and out of the hospital. We do not have much more information and we're not sure of his age, he is not in school yet, so very young.

### **Operation Christmas Child is now operational**

Christmas shoeboxes are available from Church, please call **Philip Carter on 0400 486 371** for further details. You can drop off your shoeboxes on Saturdays between 1-2pm (during October) or on Sundays at our Family Service.

## **Christmas Puddings**

Lorraine Griffiths will be baking Christmas puddings again this year. All proceeds to go to Missions. We ask for bags of dried fruit. This can be left in the foyer where she will pick it up. Thank you.



## **Good News and Gratitude Box**

In this box we will put something once a week that we are thankful for. Something to add to our prayer list to praise Great God for. **Please contact Lina if you have something to put in our box.** It can be the smallest little flower that brightened up your day or a big answer to prayer, a call from a grandchild or a smile from a stranger. Let us praise God for our blessings.

***Praise God that, after 6 months of not being able to meet; the Wednesday Craft Group were able to meet this week for a wonderful time of Christian fellowship. The craft group meets on Wednesdays 1-3pm, please contact Heather O'Rourke, if you would like to join the group. (submitted by The Craft Group)***



<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**(Hebrews 10:24-25)**

## **Who am I? (Can you guess who this member of our Church Family is)**

- Born near Yamba, grew up in Dundas.
- Went to Brownies as a child.
- Enjoyed Bjelke Peterson Physical Culture into my teens.
- Started my traineeship in the laboratory of Auburn Hospital in preparation for the construction of Westmead Hospital.
- Director of a charity for 10 years.
- Enjoys jigsaw puzzles.

**(Answer at the bottom of the Newsletter)**

### **Recycling – Ink Cartridges and Bread Tags**

Please bring any **used printer cartridges for recycling**. The Planet Ark program returns a large proportion of the cartridges to the original manufacturers for component recovery programs. The remaining cartridge waste components are recycled to produce a timber replacement. Also, please bring in **bread tags**, as they are recycled to make wheelchairs in South Africa. A box is available in the foyer, to place them in.

### **Art Exhibition**

Phil Russell has two complimentary tickets for an Art Exhibition at the Open & Shut Art Gallery, 3/6 Hereford Street, Berkeley Vale, for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. Please see Phil, if you would like to use these tickets.

### **A Bit of Fun**

A Christian guy named Bill saw an ad online for a Christian horse, so he went to check it out. The horse's owner said, "It's easy to ride him. Just say 'Praise the Lord!' to make him go and 'Amen!' to make him stop." Bill got on the horse and said, "Praise the Lord!" Sure enough, the horse started to walk. "Praise the Lord!" he said again, and the horse began to trot. "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" he yelled, and the horse broke into a gallop. Bill was enjoying his ride so much that he almost didn't notice the cliff he and the horse were about to go over. Bill shouted "AMEN!" at the top of his lungs, and the horse stopped right at the edge of the cliff. Relieved, Bill said, "Phew! Praise the Lord!"...

As my five-year-old son and I were heading to McDonald's one day, we passed a car accident. Usually when we see something terrible like that, we say a prayer for whoever might be hurt, so I pointed and said to my son, "We should pray."

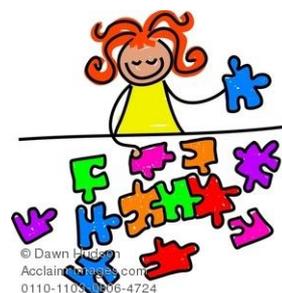
From the back seat I heard his earnest voice: "Dear God, please don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's."

### **From God's Word**

**Remember God is in control of all things!**

**2 Samuel 17:14: Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The advice of Hushai the Arkite is better than that of Ahithophel." For the LORD had determined to frustrate the good advice of Ahithophel in order to bring disaster on Absalom.**

**A fellow servant of our Lord Jesus, Rev Paul**



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