

AUSTRALASIAN GOOD TIDINGS

E-NEWS – 30 April 2015 #39

NSW Youth Campout

Gum Bend Lake - Condobolin NSW
24-26 April 2015

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After a beautiful long trip for most on Friday 24th April, we all reached our camp destination at Condobolin campsite, Gum Bend Road, and Lake Condobolin was in sight. Ten tents were pitched in total, and approximately thirty of us were there for the start of Sabbath, which was much looked forward to. Larry Ah-ching (NSW Youth Leader) opened Sabbath with a few favourite hymns and readings from Exodus, Numbers, and Joshua. By tracing Joshua's path to leadership, our youth could learn principles for success which they could apply today. A short discussion followed.

Soups seemed to be on everyone's menu for Friday night, and they were definitely enjoyed by all, to take the bite out of the cool evening. Surprisingly, everyone went to bed later than normal for a Friday night, as some went for a walk around the lake, others were enjoying group discussions, and another group enjoyed singing along with Abraham Dumaguit on the guitar. Friday night's rest was a mixture of bird sounds, cows mooing, possums screeching, ducks quacking, geese honking, and not to forget the road train and freight train shudders in the night. Surprisingly, we all awoke half refreshed and ready for breakfast.

After breakfast, we enjoyed the study of our Sabbath school lesson by the lake. It was lovely to have a friend, John, who lived 70km away, join us for the Sabbath day's program. The youth separated to study the lesson with David Dumaguit, as the younger children sang songs and enjoyed a nature treasure hunt finding items such as feathers, leaves, rocks, flowers, insects, things fuzzy, green, and many more interesting collectibles.



Br Peter Lausevic led out in a presentation and discussion on 'Does Your Past Determine Your Future?' It is not only our future, but our characters which will determine who we are and what we will do in life. *"I entreat you to be wise, and consider what will be the result of leading a wild life, uncontrolled by the Spirit of God. 'Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.'"* Messages to Young People p. 21.

What effect will our wrong choices and temptations and failures have on our decisions? If we compromise our values and do wrong, this will affect us always, even if we repent. A known sin, if repented of, will affect us forever. Though God may forgive the sinner, this act will affect us for eternity.

"Every sin, every unrighteous action, every transgression of the law of God, tells with a thousandfold more force upon the actor than the sufferer. Every time one of the glorious faculties with which God has enriched man is abused or misused, that faculty loses forever a portion of its vigor and will never be as it was before the abuse it suffered. Every abuse inflicted upon our moral nature in this life is felt not only for time but for eternity. Though God may forgive the sinner, yet eternity will not make up that voluntary loss sustained in this life.

To go forth into the next, the future life, deprived of half the power which might be carried there is a terrible thought. The days of probation lost here in acquiring a fitness for heaven, is a loss which will never be recovered. The capacities of enjoyment will be less in the future life for the misdemeanors and abuse of moral powers in this life. However high we might attain in the future life, we might soar higher and still higher, if we had made the most of our God-given privileges and golden opportunities to improve our faculties here in this probationary existence...." This Day With God p. 350.

"Seeking greater honor or a more pleasing task, they attempt something for which they are not fitted. Many a man whose talents are adapted for some other calling, is ambitious to enter a profession; and he who might have been successful as a farmer, an artisan, or a nurse, fills inadequately the position of a minister, a lawyer, or a physician. There are others, again, who might have filled a responsible calling, but who, for want of energy, application, or perseverance, content themselves with an easier place.

We need to follow more closely God's plan of life. To do our best in the work that lies nearest, to commit our ways to God, and to watch for the indications of His providence—these are rules that ensure safe guidance in the choice of an occupation." Education p. 267

God has a special plan for us. We must consider the following points:

1. Apply what we are doing in our daily life.
2. Do it to our best ability.
3. Commit our ways to God.

"We are admonished to redeem the time. But time squandered can never be recovered. We cannot call back even one moment. The only way in which we can redeem our time is by making the most of that which remains, by being co-workers with God in His great plan of redemption.

In him who does this, a transformation of character takes place. He becomes a son of God, a member of the royal family, a child of the heavenly King. He is fitted to be the companion of the angels." Christ's Object Lessons p. 342



After a delicious combined savoury lunch, we spent some precious time exchanging thoughts and plans for letterboxing the area of Condobolin. The young people divided into 4 groups and headed off to their letterboxing activities, while others stayed behind and went for a walk around the lake.

We all sang songs together accompanied by Abraham on the guitar for the closing of Sabbath, as it lightly started to sprinkle rain. Nathan Wiseman led out in the close of Sabbath with favourite songs and favourite Bible verses. After a big lunch, dinner wasn't really on anybody's minds; but all the same, we started cooking some fresh corn, heating up waffles, and baking potatoes in the fire and socialising one with another. After dinner, Amos Thiel led out in some games, for the young and old, which were enjoyed by everybody.

After a good night's rest, we all had morning worship together around the fire; this was led out by Craig Cunningham, relating personal experiences in his life and the importance in seeking God.

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Isaiah 60:1

"Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." 1 Corinthians 15:34

After a quick breakfast and looking at the weather, we all decided to pack up our tents before the rain and go on our hike up Mount Tilga (the heart of NSW), while Tanya Ah-ching, Kaylene Thiel, Nadine Cunningham, and a few of the little children, stayed behind to prepare our delicious BBQ lunch, which was much appreciated by all. Exhausted and tired, we looked forward to our lunch.

After lunch and all the farewells, slowly one by one, each of us left for the long journey home. Many thanks to our leaders and their assistants, in the putting together of this outing.

~ Kiara-Shaye and Veronica Hake

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=8723>

Baptism – Jessica Walkom

11 April 2015



On Sabbath 11th April 2015, friends and family gathered from NSW and Victoria to celebrate Jessica Walkom's decision to follow her Lord in baptism. Sabbath morning found approximately 100 people gathered at the Bannister Hall to witness her baptism. It was wonderful to see the outpouring of love and encouragement offered to Jessica. Bro Peter Lausevic preached a heart-reaching sermon on true conversion. This was followed by a lovely fellowship lunch shared outdoors and very well coordinated by Jessica's mother, Glenys.

In the afternoon we all headed out to the Wollondilly River. Bro Nathan Tyler conducted the riverside service and baptism. It was

wonderful to see the peace on Jessica's face as she made her covenant with the Lord.

For many of our young people that have grown up in the church, baptism and church membership is an encouraged step. However, Jessica has not had the advantage of regular fellowship with our church and has made the decision to be baptised and become a member of Christ's body for herself. I pray that God may give each of us the moral strength to stand for Him and His truth as Jessica has done in her life.

~ Submitted by Cherith Dammasch



For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=8661>

New Zealand Field Camp and Baptisms

NZ Mission Field Camp Meeting and Baptisms

On April 9-12, 2015 at Campbell Park Christian Camp, Mangawhai Heads, the New Zealand Field hosted a camp meeting. The park is perfect, peaceful, and affordable for homely comfort and excellent group facilities. Proximity to beaches and walking tracks are just a few of the many opportunities offered when staying at the park. The theme for the Spiritual Conference was: “Jesus – The I Am.”



Brother Paul Chapman, one of the guest speakers of the camp meeting, shared wonderful thoughts on the topics: “Laodicea and The Remnant,” “The Power of That Other Angel,” and “The Godhead”. His Sabbath message during the divine service hour was about “The Real Deal.”

Brother Rolly Dumaguit shared with us a great study on the subject: “The Sealing of God’s People” and an experience of the progress of the work in Tahiti. The brethren and friends from the independent ministries who attended the meeting really enjoyed the talks. The meeting started out with 34 in attendance (that included children) and ended up on the highest day with 49 persons.

The highlight of the camp meeting was the baptism of Sister Taputu Wilson, on April 11, 2015. On Sabbath, the sister had publicly renounced her former church connections and began to follow with us in the footsteps of our Saviour. On the same day, she was accepted into the fellowship of the church and during the appeal for prayer, four others came forward and wished to be baptised in the near future.

On Sunday, we bade farewell and said our goodbyes to our friends; and the members of our Field met together for the Annual General Meeting to reorganise the work of the New Zealand Mission Field. New officers were elected, and plans were put together for this year.

Brother Paul Chapman stayed for another week and spent one

Sabbath in Auckland Church and shared with us a beautiful topic that focused on Christ: “Let this Mind be in you”. On the same day, April 18, 2015, another brother was baptised, fellowshipped, and added to our church. Those who remained in the afternoon of the Sabbath, drove to the place of baptism and walked along the trail to the creek. In the morning, the weather condition was threatening – the sky was covered with gloomy clouds, and showers of rain were falling from time to time. So we prayed that God would





provide us a pleasant weather. When we were setting out to the place of baptism in the afternoon, we praised the Lord, the sky turned to blue and the dark clouds cleared. Brother Michael Graham was buried in the watery grave that Sabbath.

We praise the Lord for His blessings to this harvest field. ONE BY ONE they came this April.... To God be the glory.

~ Reported by Br Arnaldo Pedrosa

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=8503>

NSW Youth Focus Meeting

4 April 2015

April was here and some were off to China, Victoria & Umina, but many were still left locally to hold another Focus evening. Thank you to Brethren Craig & Murray for hosting the evening at their small cosy place.



To begin the evening we all read together Matthew 13:3-23... The Parable about the Sower and the Seed. David then gave every young person a question sheet on the reading. The young people then had to choose another 2 or 3 people from the room to join them and to complete the tasks asked on the sheets of paper. After a good half hour of group preparations the answers were then read out to everyone.

We all closed Sabbath together, and Murray had a reading from "A Call To Stand Apart" -challenging young adults to make an eternal difference. He read from Chapter 6... The Answer Lies in the Soil.... corresponding to our group discussions.



Following the closing of the Sabbath the older young people started preparing the BBQ dinner while the young people were enjoying an activity together organised by Larry. The activity started by breaking up into groups of 4. Each group would have to think of a question and answer from the Bible to challenge the opposite teams. Each team could only answer the question with short one word answers from each team member without actually communicating with each other. This activity challenged our minds to think not only of ourselves but of our team members.

We all enjoyed the delicious BBQ together and had fellowship one with another.

We were then briefed about the upcoming end of April camp weekend which we are all looking forward to at Condobolin.

Thanks again to our NSW Youth Department for a great evening.

~ Kiara-Shaye & Laurence-Aiden Hake

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=8487>

WA Camp 2015

“Getting to Know God” – 3-6 April 2015

Good Friday dawned bright and sunny after a cold evening and Lake Navarino, Waroona, WA saw the arrival of Perth and Stratham families coming together for a youth camp entitled “Getting to Know God.”



After setting up camp, we started the program with the opening Sabbath Worship entitled “What is your picture of God?” We explored how each one of us view God through a pair of glasses. How we view Him depends on how we have been brought up, who has role modeled Christianity to us and, in particular, our relationship with our earthly fathers. Some glasses are sunglasses where the view is darkened, some are the wrong type of reading glasses where the view is distorted and some are prescription sunglasses where the view is distorted and darkened. We learned that Satan’s number one effort is to distort our image of God and make him out as a tyrant. We then learned through what glasses God would have us view him, and we looked at 1 John 4:7-12. God loved us enough that He made a huge sacrifice to give us His Son to be humiliated and killed so we could live forever. The glasses He wants us to view Him through are love, and then all other aspects of God will be made clearer.

After dinner we had youth question time where some questions that had been previously asked by the youth were explored and answered by Br Luke and Br Csongi Matyas, the Union Youth Leader, who we were privileged to have attend our camp.

Sabbath morning began with morning worship taken by the first youth group. Their title was “How do I acquaint myself with



God?" We learned of different ways we could have the initial contact with God before really getting to know him. Nature, the Bible and self-sacrifice were the ideas highlighted.



After Sabbath School we began a bush walk past the Waroona Dam, crossing over a dry section of it to the bush beyond. Unfortunately we had a casualty along the way when one of the young people slipped and fell on the pebbly gravel and scored a very nasty graze on her leg. The hike halted until first aid was given and a decision was made whether to take her back to camp or let her continue. We crossed the dam and had lunch, and a relief four-wheel drive was brought from camp to take back the injured and weary while the rest continued on.

At approximately 3.00pm the spiritual section of the Sabbath was held by Br Csongi Matyas where we looked at "How do you spend time with God." A few selected young people shared how they spent their time during a normal day and during a busy day and where they found time to spend with friends during their busy schedules. We then looked at how we could allocate time to spend with our best friend, God, and how He is such a good friend that He can spend time with us even when we are busy.

After dinner evening worship was taken by another selected youth group where we explored the question "What does God love?" As part of getting to know our friends we find out what they like and dislike; and we learned that God loves justice, as we do, He loves beauty and nature, like we do, and He loves people as we do. He also loves to see our obedience stemming from love.

Sunday morning began with worship entitled "What does God Hate?" We learned God hates disobedience, because of where it leads us to. It hurts parents to see their children disobey because they know it will lead their children down a terrible pathway, and God also hates to see our disobedience because He knows it will destroy us.

After worship and breakfast we joined in with some spiritually focused activities. The first section was the "first aid" section where we had four casualties coming in, one at a time, with life threatening injuries. The first casualty was so busy playing computer games and listening to her loud music through her earphones that she was not interested in being helped for her life threatening injuries. However she had a lot of time for a friend who came and talked to her about the latest movie and cars doing doughnuts on the dam.

The second casualty was unconscious and could not ask for help with her life threatening injuries, so help was given.

The third casualty did not want any help whatsoever for various reasons; and although the person trying to help him persisted, he refused help.



The fourth casualty had life threatening injuries but only wanted to help herself. She did not want to accept help from others.

The lessons we learned from these cases were that we all have life threatening injuries. We are doomed to death from sin. Some are too distracted to even notice or pay attention to God trying to help them, some are not able to ask for help because they don't even realise they are hurt, some refuse help from God and the Holy Spirit and there is little God can do for them since they do not consent, and some realise they are in need of help but want to do all the work of healing spiritually themselves.

After these activities the youth went down by the lake where they participated in a further activity whereby they had to make their way through a maze, blindfolded. The maze represented our lives and pathways. One pathway lead to eternal death and one to eternal life. Each person had to maintain their way along the pathway of eternal life while resisting influences for evil along the way. There were influences and suggestions of good and evil and their response to these suggestions and decisions would determine how they stayed on the pathway.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in free activity canoeing on the lake and enjoying some social time together.

Evening worship was taken by a fourth youth group who briefly explored "How do we follow God?" We learned that we first have to have a need, secondly we need to choose and thirdly we need to find out God's will for our lives and pathways and then do it.

Sunday evening saw the continuation of question time which was participated in by all.

Monday morning worship was the close of the camp, and we briefly summarized all that we had learned and closed with an appeal for all who had not made their decision to get to know God and follow Him to really make their choice to do so. To get to know God was to receive eternal life, as set out in John 17:3 --*"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."*



~ Reported by Catherine Robles

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=8449>

Victoria Camp 2015

Christian Life Skills - 3-6 April 2015



Despite a sad-looking weather forecast, the opening day for camp was a beautiful warm sunny day. No doubt many were relieved as the weather near Melbourne can be proverbially cold. As midday approached, the campground began to fill with people from as far afield as Queensland, Perth, Sydney and Coleambally.

This year's camp was held in a new location, Alexander Adventure Resort. This quaint but beautiful campground sits on top of a knoll, surrounded by large majestic hills, overlooking a large peaceful lake with a little island in the middle.

The little children enjoyed watching the elegant swans on the lake, while mums and dads set up house in bunkrooms.

The camp cooks had already arrived and were working their magic. The kitchen was a hive of busy activity, and there were delicious smells wafting out to tease our appetites. After getting our appetites teased by the wonderful aroma of cooking food, our noses and palates were not disappointed in the evening meal.

After a wonderful satisfying dinner, everyone headed down to the small chapel just above the lake. Here our camp officially started with the first meeting. It was entitled "Getting in the Door." Bro Tyler took us through the different characteristics of the wise and foolish virgins. The necessity of being ready before it is too late really was impressed on us. We learned that a form of godliness will not save us, but we must be in earnest, and our focus needs to be Heaven centered. We read the statement that only 1 in 20 are ready to close their earthly history. Put in practical terms, only a couple from the room would make it that was the case. We were encouraged to not allow this to happen and make sure we all would be right with God. I know I left that meeting wanting to make sure I was one of the wise.

Sabbath morning dawned cold and foggy. As everyone made their way to the chapel, swans could be seen on the lake. Morning worship was taken by Sis Rachel Araya. She took an inspiring message on “The Sowing and Reaping of Life.” The message took us through the life of King David and the many consequences this mighty man of God paid for his mistakes.

The youth Sabbath school lesson was presented by Bro Stelios. As the youth gathered outside to study the lesson, the sun had finally come out. The Sabbath school lesson stirred up a fascinating discussion on health, sickness and prevention of disease.

After a short break, it was time to head back into church for the divine service. The chapel was quickly very crowded with ushers trying to find more seats. Bro Paul Chapman shared a solemn message with us entitled “The Real Deal.” A key point of the message was that it is much easier to be saved than lost. This was compared to the reality that it is easier to eat food/drink water than it is to starve/die of thirst. So too, it is easier to accept the gracious privileges and blessings of God then to reject them and lose out on eternal life.

Once again, Sr. Ecaterina Szabo and her team of cooks did a wonderful job on providing an excellent, healthy meal. The campground surroundings inspired many to wander about and take in its beauty.

Almost too soon for many the bell rang, and it was time for Young People’s. We were treated to a wonderful afternoon of lovely and inspiring items. Truly God was praised through music and song.



The Sabbath evening meal was a real surprise and delight as the cooks outshone themselves in providing tasty dishes for the coeliacs/ gluten intolerant attendees. This was particularly nice as the Sabbath evening meal seems to be traditionally tasty desserts. As those who cannot consume gluten know, this is especially challenging to provide healthy options for.

The closing Sabbath worship was taken by Jade Wales – “Your Case Coming Up.” He shared with us the importance of being prepared for when our case comes before the judgment seat of God.

Sabbath night daylight savings ended, and many had the opportunity to see a full lunar eclipse. Sunday morning Adriana Stefanescu took worship on the theme of “No Time to do the Devil’s Work.”

Through the morning we shared in some practical workshops. The first one was taken by Bro Nathan Tyler on the importance of Bible study along with practical tips of how to do it. We had some good discussions on how to make sure we do it. These included making sure we spend that time first thing in the morning when there are few distractions. Some complained that they spend up to 4 hours in travel to and from their work. These were encouraged to spend that dead time of driving in listening to God’s Word.

After that Bro Paul took another practical workshop on moral dilemmas one might face in their life. The congregation was divided into groups and each given a dilemma to discuss. There was a lot of interesting discussion, and it was fascinating to hear the different ways each person suggested in dealing with the

various situations. At the conclusion Bro Chapman shared how God had answered the prayers of the people who had had to deal with the issues in real life.



After lunch we had fun activities such as canoeing on the lake. Many people were out in a canoe for the first time in their lives. It was beautiful to see mums and dads with their children enjoying the tranquility of the lake together as a family!

Sis Susanna led out in some excellent team-building activities. It was really good to watch cooperation between the groups to achieve the group goal.

Bro Geoff led out in worship, and then some people retired for the night. Many others enjoyed the camp fire while fellowshiping with friends. The young people enjoyed many lively games in the hall which included very little ones and older young people. It was really nice seeing the inclusive spirit between them all. Lots of laughter rang out through the hall as different people were blindfolded and had to figure where someone in the circle was who was doing all they could to keep out of their way.



Monday morning brought the conclusion of a wonderful camp meeting. Too soon it was time to pack up and head home.

~ Reported by: Adriana Stefanescu and Danica Tyler

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=8359>

Practical Home Healing

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Coming Events Calendar

19 July 2015

Vegetarian Way Cooking Classes – 3:00pm - 6:00pm

Location: Function Hall - Perth

6 James Street, Guildford, WA 6055

For further information contact: Luke

Mobile: 0411 250 852

Email: wa@elimhealth.org.au

5-8 June 2015

NSW Conference – more info coming soon

Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW

3-5 October 2015

Queensland Conference – more info coming soon

- 18 October 2015** **Vegetarian Way Cooking Classes – 3:00pm - 6:00pm**
Location: Function Hall - Perth
6 James Street, Guildford, WA 6055
For further information contact: Luke
Mobile: 0411 250 852
Email: wa@elimhealth.org.au
- 25-29 December 2015** **Education and Family Camp – more info coming soon**
Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW, Australia
For further information email education@sdarm.org.au
Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553
- 25 Aug - 8 Sept 2015** **22nd GC Delegation Session – Delegates only**
Location: Wirtz, Virginia USA
For further information <http://gcsession.sdarm.org>
- 10-13 September 2015** **22nd GC Session Spiritual Meetings – Public**
“Christ Is All, and in All”
Location: Salem Civic Center, Taliaferro Complex, Salem, VA, USA
For further information <http://gcsession.sdarm.org/2015/>

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