

2019 Year Book #68

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AUC Conference and Delegation Session 2019

25-28 December, 2019

It had been 175 years since 1844 and was a good time to reflect and review how the Lord has led His people, and how He has taught us in our past history. Presentations focused on different aspects of historical and doctrinal development were shared.

"We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history." Life Sketches, p. 196.

We praise God that against all odds, we were still able to go ahead and host the AUC Triennial Conference and Delegation Session in December 2019 as planned. Two of the venues that we had booked for this event were canceled due to the bush fires, so all meetings took place at the Headquarters.

We would like to thank God for making this possible; we also thank the Schofields Church brethren for being able to hold this special event at their church. Visitors and members who came from far and near were dispersed and accommodated in different homes of our Sydney brethren, motels, caravan parks and rented houses.



AUC Conference Cont.

Each day, people gathered from different directions to attend and enjoy the conference program which was prepared. The fellowship with one another was treasured, and each felt very encouraged by the privilege of meeting together once again.

The children also had a program prepared for them with many workshops to suit different age groups, including a visit from a petting zoo.

Our thanks go to Jessica Brown and her helpers for organising our daily physical food and for their hard work in making nutritious meals ready, which was much appreciated by all.

The conference theme was: "Vision 2020". Workers from within Australia and New Zealand presented different meetings. We were also blessed to have with us Brethren Liviu Tudoroiu (GC Secretary) and Rudolfo Gessner (GC Treasurer).

During this conference, one of the highlights was to witness the profession of faith and baptism of Christopher Barat. We pray God will continue to be his strength and guide throughout his life.

Some of the topics presented at the conference were:

- The Great Awakening and the Advent Movement
- History of the Three Angels' Messages
- Development of the Platform of Truth
- History of the 1888 Session and the Message of Righteousness by Faith

We praise God for the technology available these days. For those who were not able to attend, all the presentations given during the "Vision 2020" conference were recorded and are available for viewing on the Schofields Church channel: www.youtube.com/schofieldschurch

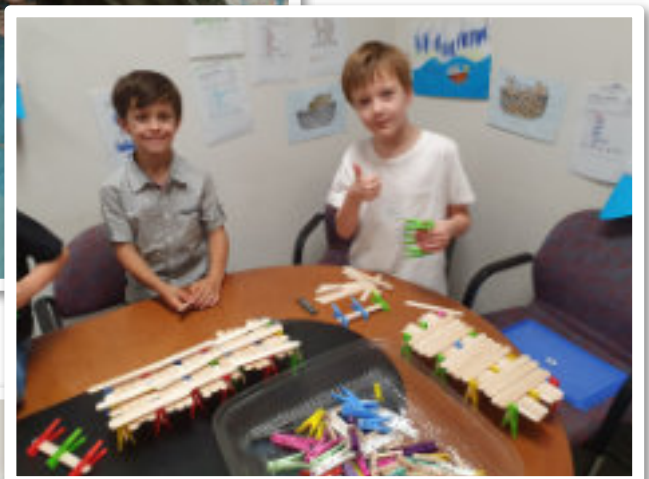
Through this horrendous time, although we lost buildings at Elim Heights property and sadly the Tyler family's home, there is much to be thankful to God for, as none of our brethren lost their lives. "The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him" (Psalm 34:7,8).

For all those who attended, this event proved to be a truly great spiritual feast; it will keep us going until the next time. May God's name be praised!

After the conclusion of the spiritual conference, twenty-eight delegates of the Australasian Union Conference (AUC) met together at Schofields Centre, in order to reorganise this Union. We are grateful to God that Brother Liviu Tudoroiu was able to be here to chair the session. We pray God will continue giving the workers wisdom as the work goes forward in this beautiful country.







Vision

By Margaret Ciric

As we recall our past history,
We see God revealing a great mystery;
And to those who prayed and cried,
Whose faith was tested and tried,
God came and opened the door wide.

To His children who searched the Word of
God,
Many new truths did now unfold.
Preparing now to work and tell others,
Ordinary folks, fathers and mothers,
Became in Jesus, sisters and brothers.

To us they left a great legacy,
To share it with others is our emergency.
As it was to them, may it now be our vision,
Let not the enemy in, to come and cause
division.
Let us heed God's call and accept His
admonition.

Let us not waste any more time,
But let us draw closer, save every dollar or
dime.

Whether you're a plumber or an electrician,
Teacher in a school, explaining division,
Reflecting Christ is to be our vision.

Are we ready for this commission?
Do we resent reproof or timely admonition?
Do we feel the need of revival and
reformation?
Whatever our call, colour or station,
May we allow God to perform the needed
transformation.

Jesus is calling His church, His bride,
To put aside all malice, gossip and pride.
Let not our thoughts be on worldly fashion,
But on all the things that need
transformation;
And our time wisely spent on heavenly
education.

For His children He died and is pleading,
In heaven for you and for me He's
interceding.
May our prayer be in this crucial hour,
Prepare us Lord, for the outpouring of Your
Spirit's power,
That the work may be done, that Jesus may
come.

Amen.



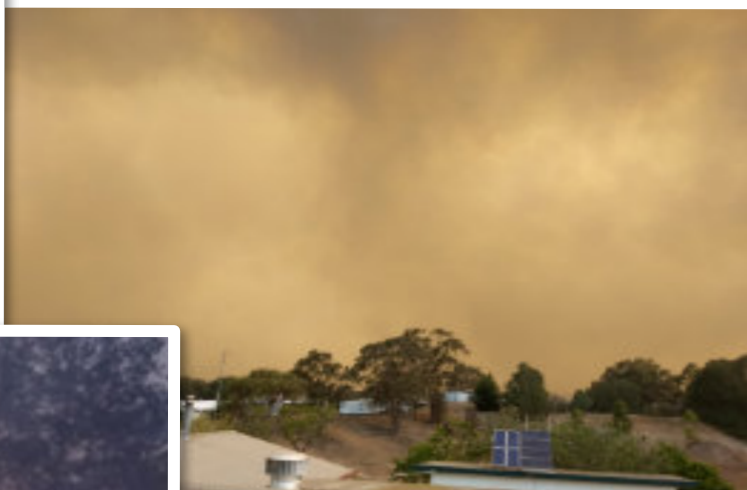
Bush Fires at Elim Heights Youth Camp

On the evening of 12 November 2019, Sydney, Australia time, the bushfires raging in New South Wales, Australia, passed through our Elim Heights Youth Camp, nestled in the surrounds of the Yengo National Park.

The fire has destroyed the main meeting hall, the main machinery shed, the roof of the small toilet block and a cottage that was housing the then NSW Conference President, Nathan Tyler and his family. While personal effects have been destroyed, we are grateful to the Lord that no life was lost.

Brother Tyler's family had been evacuated prior to the bushfire passing through the campground. Brother Tyler remained behind to do as much as he could to preserve the campground buildings with the assistance of firefighters from the Rural Fire Service and National Parks and Wildlife Service. Together they did their best to reduce the risk of buildings catching on fire. However, Brother Nathan reports that by the time the bushfire hit the campground it had turned into a "firestorm," a fire which attains such intensity that it creates and sustains its own weather system. Under the influence of a southerly change, gale-force winds first hit the machinery shed, blowing off the roof. The wooden frame then caught alight from thousands of embers raining down and the radiant heat of flames soaring many metres above the treetops. Due to the intensity of the firestorm, firefighting efforts were quickly abandoned and crews had to shelter. The fire which started under the veranda of the church hall was too quick and too ferocious to be able to extinguish.

Some footage and photos of the meeting hall before, during and after were captured.





Paul Mervyn Southwell - Life Sketches

April 2, 1963 - December 29, 2019

Hebrews 11:10 "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

Paul's childhood years were spent in the beautiful coastal towns of Merimbula in NSW, and then later Streaky Bay in SA. Our father had started off as a truck driver, and later found his employment as a fisherman. Consequently driving, boating and the recreation afforded by a coastal location, became influences that were prominent in Paul's formative years. His life was rich with varied experiences. He enjoyed adventure and activity, which naturally led to the development of his physical abilities. As the third child he matured quickly, in order to keep up with his older brother, myself, and his sister Susan.

At the age of about five, the family moved to Streaky Bay, SA, where Paul spent almost all his school life. He was a keen runner and at school sports days won many of his age group races. The desire to do his very best revealed itself in his life: boating, water-skiing, driving cars, motorcycles, restoring cars, landscaping, playing the guitar and the trumpet; and later in renovating houses, and hobby farming.

At the age of sixteen, in 1979, he started work at the local Ford dealership as a clerk. In following years these clerical skills were helpful in assisting his family in the running of a health food shop in Auckland, New Zealand. Purchasing, restocking and sales, along with customer service were some areas in which he contributed.

In 1981 Paul joined me in Adelaide, where we shared a unit in the suburb of Prospect. Later that year the family was reunited for approximately 7-8 years, living in the small Adelaide Hills township of Clarendon. It was during this time that our sister Susan was married to Peter Lausevic. Paul was one of the groomsmen. He loved all occasions where family and friends got together, and these happy memories always held a special place in his heart.

In spite of his determination to live a full life, Paul had been suffering from Crohn's disease from about the age of 14 and had been in and out of hospital during the many years that followed. He bore these trials bravely and kept positive.

When our parents moved away and sold the Clarendon property, Paul and I bought a house together in Aberfoyle Park in 1990. He was working as an Accountancy Clerk with St John Ambulance in Adelaide while studying for his Accounting degree. Halfway through 1991 he responded to the call of the church to work in Sydney as Treasurer for the Australasian Union Conference, where he continued for approximately 9-10 years.

This was when he met his wife-to-be, Tania Kukrika, the Union Office Assistant, and Paul's fellow worker.



They were married on the 26th of September 1993, in the beautiful location of the Elim Heights Youth Camp at Mellong, NSW.

Hoping to establish a country home together, they purchased a bush property on Wheeny Creek in NSW, where they spent weekends, planning, dreaming and working towards moving there. In 1995 they welcomed the birth of their baby boy, Seth Matthew Southwell. Paul was a very devoted and supportive new father.

Unfortunately Paul's health had been deteriorating for a number of years, and this in conjunction with a



lively and fast growing toddler, led them in about 1998 to purchase a small old cottage in the Sydney suburb of Greystanes. Although not a builder by trade, naturally practical, using what he had learned from our father, and learning as the need arose, Paul patiently transformed the little house into a comfortable and beautiful home.

Still, the desire to live in the country, beckoned the couple, and in April of 2002 they found a property beside a crystal clear stream, a short drive west of Coffs Harbour, NSW. Another old home, another renovator's "dream", yet his struggle with poor health continued. The years passed all too quickly, a mix of joys and challenges familiar to all in this earthly life.

Paul loved people and I doubt that there were any with which he didn't get along. He was always extremely courteous and thoughtful of others. He was a person that let his interests be subservient to yours. He had an ever-present desire to connect with the community, joining the local Rural Fire Brigade and the local River Care group, assisting when his health permitted, helping them with native plantings of trees and shrubs and doing their bookwork. Regularly he met with a small local Sabbath-keeping group, whom he grew to love as family, and they loved him as a son, brother and friend.

Paul travelled by train up and down the coast for various reasons, often staying at the home of his mother and father-in-law. He developed a close bond with them. They were always there to help him through his times of illness and hospitalisations, and it was to him they would turn in their latter years when they needed some guidance or support.

In June/July of 2011 Paul and Seth had the pleasure of participating in a "Fly and Build" mission trip in Vanuatu. Together with the other volunteers they laboured to build a church. Paul had a zest for life which was contagious. He was meticulous in his work and attentive to detail.

He loved to help others and would try and squeeze all he could into every activity or social association. I will remember how he helped me and my wife Janet in our own house renovations, putting in two toilets and a new laundry sink, helping me with painting and patching my ceiling. He did the same for my sister and brother-in-law Peter, with every effort he could offer at any time he was nearby.

Although holidays were infrequent, one



of the last highlights of our time together as brothers, was visiting Phil and Tania Gordon in Merimbula, NSW, a couple of years ago. We went swimming, paddle boarding and visiting the places that held fond memories of our early years and family life – Grandma's Waterfall at Back Creek, Merimbula Wharf, Merimbula Point, Back beach, Wallagoot Lake, Brown Mountain.

During the last few years cancer led Paul to much inner reflection. He had a deep concern for his spiritual life and health and in July of last year 2019 asked for anointing. His experience since then was of deep joy and a revival of Christian life commitment.

On 29th December 2019 Paul passed away. May he rest in peace till Jesus returns.

- Gary Southwell



New Zealand Camp & Baptism

2-5 October 2019

Members, friends and visitors gathered at the Pacific Christian Camp. There was a distance to walk between where we slept and where we ate and worshipped, so you couldn't ring a bell. It meant all had to do their own time management.

The drizzly rain was consistent for the long drive to camp, but I praised the Lord, for the weather cleared up and drizzled again the day we left. What a blessing, and camp was a blessed experience also. I know the Word of God by the Holy Spirit is a life transforming power, and to form a union with the great threefold power is a marvellous grace experience. I give praise to God for His goodness toward erring mortals. When God's children gather together away from the cares of this life, it is something very special.

Under the camp theme: "Educating for Eternity", Brother Arnaldo shared for the opening address on the Educational Schools of the Bible:

- The Eden School
- The Patriarchal School
- The School of the Desert
- The School of Canaan
- The School of the Prophets
- The Baptist School of Modesty and Reformation
- The Learning School of Jesus (our pattern Man) = A Home School
- The Training School for the Disciples: Discipleship Program
- The Church School of the Christian: A Missionary School (Matt 28:19, 20)
- The Never-ending School: Education for an Eternity.

Sr. Taputu led the young people in Steps to Christ for their age groups in readings, puzzles and colouring in with outdoor activities in nature spread over camp. Br. Craig our visitor from the Philippines presented a good study from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy on Dress Reform.

Thursday evening Sr. Winsome shared of Prayer as a tool in true education, demonstrated by Christ's prayer for Peter in his temptation and fall, which told Peter that Christ had confidence in him to be an overcomer. When he was converted, he was commanded to strengthen his brethren. Luke 22:32. The question for us today is "Lovest thou Me more than these" – family, work, possessions, worldly honour, what we eat and wear? "Lovest thou Me?"

Friday morning worship Br. Arnaldo used the same story of Peter's temptation and fall to reveal how little we know our own heart and do not appreciate as we should the warnings and saving devices of our Lord, that the church may be presented "not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Ephesians 5:27.

Br. Paul led us in the foundation rule of life – Principle. He explained the difference between principle and worldly policy.

Worldly policy is subject to feeling and circumstances – is variable depending on mood and desired outcome. On the other hand, principle changes not and could even be to personal loss. Principle always holds true regardless of circumstances or self-interest.

Br. Arnaldo opened Sabbath with much emphasis on the Christian's privileges, the cost of becoming a teacher today and a tour of a portion of God's galaxy creation – the sun, Pleiades, and Orion. "The redeemed throng will range from world to world..." *Maranatha*, p. 367.

Our visiting triplets led us in praise with the song "That's the Place my Soul is Longing For."

Sabbath morning worship Sr Taputu spoke of adopting Jesus' attitude.

In the service Br. Paul explained what true education is. It is not just for a career nor just to gain the skills necessary for success in the workplace, but is for eternity. The brain needs to be trained to think. So much information floods our world, and we need to sift between what is genuine and good, useful, and what's not useful or actually bad. Unselfishness underlies all true development. "True education is missionary training" *Ministry of Healing* p. 395.

Our catering staff: William, Kathy, Richel and helpers did a most wonderful, selfless service. All praise to God for giving them Ten Talents, which they used to His honour and glory.

Sabbath afternoon, the highlight of camp, four souls took their stand for Jesus by faith. They solemnly pledged to be earthen vessels for the Lord's service, separating from the world and Satan. We had the service at the pool area enclosure on the camp. We were blessed with sunshine and the singing of the saints, visitors and friends. Irene Florendo, Adelaide Pedrosa, Joseph and Amelia McPherson publicly made their stand for Jesus. He is their sacrifice, High Priest, and coming King. He reigns over them. Praise the Lord. We welcomed them into the church family, the body of Christ.

The evening was a time of sharing musical talents, experiences and praise to our God.

Sunday after worship, breakfast, cleaning and packing we said our farewells till next time we gather together, knowing our God is love, and He cherishes His children.

~ Winsome Latimer



Victoria Conference Baptism

December 7th, 2019

Luke 15:7 "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

It was a beautiful sunny day. It was wonderful to see all the churches: Keilor Church, Maranatha Church, Werribee Church, some brethren from Shepparton Church, and brethren from New South Wales together in one place—we had a full house. It was just a joyful day where we saw that four young people—Rico Szabo, Roni Szabo, Christian Kiriakov and Edward Cristea—were going to make the best decision of their lives through baptism. It was supposed to be five, but four were going to be baptised in Melbourne and one, Christopher Barat, in Sydney at a later date. It was a personal decision for each of them, and their parents helped them in their spiritual journey.

We started with a normal program in the morning with Sabbath School lessons, followed by a divine service with a special topic on the "Imminent Crisis of the Centuries". As you might notice from the title, we were having our Week of Prayer reading as well; so it was another thing for which we were thankful because the Lord had protected us and blessed us during the whole year, and now the year was about to be crowned with a special event—baptism.

We had our fellowship lunch, and I believe everyone enjoyed being together and sharing the blessings and partaking of the spiritual and physical food. Once we were done having lunch, we waited a little bit till 2pm when we started our program which was going to be divided into 3 parts: 1) Profession of Faith 2) Baptism Ceremony 3) Fellowshipment of New Members. The first part was led by Bro. Randy Acquiatan who asked the four young men important questions on the Principles of Faith.

There were special items such as a combined youth item "To the River"; next "The Value of One" by sisters Diana Szabo, Fulga Batger and Andrada Phillips;

then "You Are My All In All," by the Maranatha Church choir. After all those items, we closed with a prayer and got ready to go to the river.

We started our second part, the baptism ceremony, at the Warrandyte River in the Yarra valley; and, as I said before, it was just a beautiful day. At the water, we sang hymn 530; then we had a prayer and I read the Scripture reading from Colossians 2:10-12. It was a short message of encouragement to the young people who made the decision of surrendering their lives to our Lord.

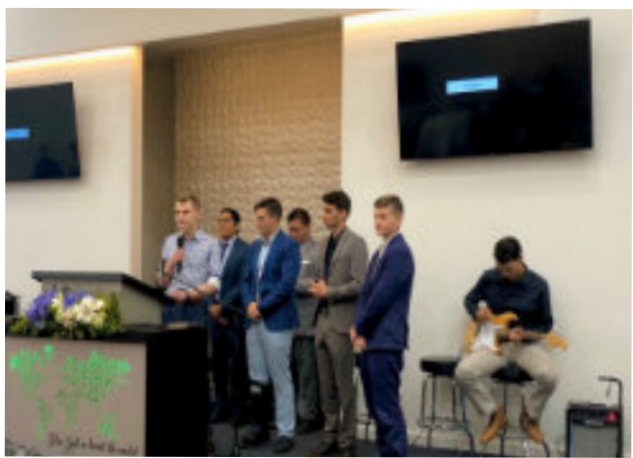
Then we made our way to the water, and as we got ready the brethren started singing hymns 528, 513 and 512.

The four young people and I were now in the water and they were ready to be baptised. It was a nice experience to see them making this decision. Every young person was baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost according to Matthew 28:19 – "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

"There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptised and these powers will cooperate with the obedient." *In Heavenly Places*, p. 336.

~ Miguel Mendoza





Baptism - Nathanael Ramsay

Nathanael Ramsay and his family lived overseas in Ecuador for several years before deciding to return and settle back into Australia.

Sometime after his family returned, Nathanael started having studies with Br. Jacob De Souza and other workers in QLD. We often had conversations of his desire to serve God and also discussed how difficult it is to live out your beliefs as a young person, especially as he was completing grade 12 in 2019. His passion to serve, however, led him not only to accept Jesus as his Saviour, but also to make a public commitment.

On the 30th of November 2019, our church family gathered from across churches in Queensland for a day of worship and celebration at the Pimpama group. After the sermon Nathanael gave his

profession of faith and then shared his testimony with the congregation. Towards the late afternoon we made our way to the river where he made his public commitment. In the evening we shared a meal next to the beach and enjoyed the sunset over the ocean.

Early this year Nathanael travelled to Sydney to join the 2020 class of Elim Missionary College. *"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."* 1 Timothy 4:12.

~ Elisabeth Balarezo



Steve Lett's Baptism

14 April 2019

On Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm, Uranquinty Church members, with visitors from Coleambally Church, Albury, and Sydney gathered joyfully at Oura Beach as our brother Steve Lett renewed his commitment to God in baptism.

It turned out to be beautiful weather for the afternoon as all gathered to celebrate this joyous occasion. Brother Nathan Tyler led out in the meeting, sharing words from inspiration about the meaning of baptism and making it personal for brother Steve as he connected how the meaning of baptism is in reality a "true paradox;" although we "die," yet at the same time we "live." We die to the "old man", the old life, and at the same time we live in Jesus Christ and are created anew.

A hymn which was specifically chosen by Brother Steve from the Reformation Hymnal, "Not I, but Christ," was sung by all.

Brother Nathan then invited Brother Domenic Polistina to read out the Profession of Faith questions for Brother Steve to publicly affirm. After this Brother Nathan led Steve into the river (which was very cold!)

where Steve publicly declared his death to the world, to Satan, and to the "old man" and his new life in Christ.

After the baptism at Oura, we all made our way back to Uranquinty Church, where Brother Nathan extended the right hand of fellowship to Brother Steve and all gladly received him as a member of Christ's body. Steve shared a testimony telling us how he has had numerous near-death experiences and how God had preserved him. He told us how on a couple of occasions he nearly died while riding his motorbike, how he had been in a boat that had sunk out at sea, how he had been in a car when it rolled in an accident, and his last event was when he had a stroke. He testified how his life has been miraculously preserved, and now he was able to re-commit his life to the Lord. The greatest miracle was God's work of grace in the life of brother Steve, which we were all privileged to see. After this we all enjoyed fellowship by talking and having an evening meal together.

Let us pray with thanksgiving for Steve and ourselves that the theme of the day will be answered, "Not I, but Christ."

~ Domenic Polistina



Baby Congratulations

Dammasch Family

What joyous moments once again filled the home of the Dammasch family as Eleanor Ruth entered their world on Wednesday, 25th December. Sending our congratulations and best wishes to Ben and Cherith on the arrival of their new baby girl, a sister for Katherine and Josiah.

There is something about a newborn baby that cannot be measured. What pride and joy they bring to the parents, but with them also comes a great responsibility for the parents to raise them to walk in the ways of the Lord. May God give both parents the wisdom needed to bring up their children for His honor and glory. As the wise man Solomon said: *"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."* Proverbs 22:6.



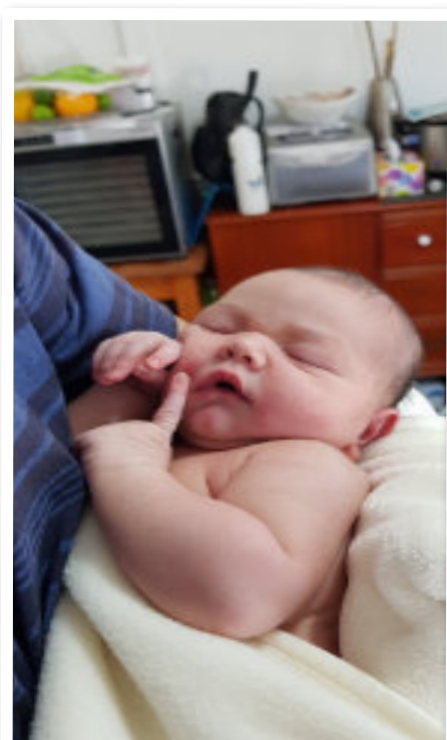
Kneebone Family

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born..." Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2 first part.

As each day passed on, the race of time between a new baby's arrival or attending the Australasian Union Conference was taking place at the Kneebone home. The whole family expected that any day, any time now their new baby boy should arrive.

Then it happened... Monday morning, the 9th December, with lots of excitement it all come about... the joy of a third baby boy's arrival (another little 'king') filled the home of Luke and Jade. Baby Hiram Joseph was in such a hurry to meet his family, that his daddy Luke delivered him, with the help of a Paramedic who guided him by phone, while the midwife was still on her way to their home. This brought so much love and happiness to the whole family; and to top it all off, they were now sure that they would all be able to attend the upcoming AUC Conference in Sydney.

We wish to congratulate them all on this happy occasion. May God continue to help both Luke and Jade as they endeavour to teach their children to love and fear Him, so that as Hiram grows, together with his brothers Josiah and Cyrus, they will always choose to serve God. May the words of Joshua be their family's inspiration: *"...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."* Joshua 24:15, last part.



Wiseman Family

Another beautiful baby boy arrived at the Wiseman family on November 1st. Congratulations to Jessica and Tim on the birth of their second baby: Benjamin.

While Jesus was on this earth, He demonstrated His love for the children. *“Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”* Matthew 19:13, 14.

We pray you will also bring up your children to have the blessings which God desires to bestow on them.



Cooking Class At Adelaide Church

On Sunday 19th of May in Adelaide Church we had a cooking class for members and friends. It was a nice gathering to demonstrate how to prepare the ordinance bread for such an important ceremony.

This special bread has symbolic meaning. The wholemeal flour represents Jesus. In John 6:35, the Bible says, "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

The pure water represents Jesus as the living water. It also points us to baptism and the washing away of sin. Jesus answered and said unto her, *"If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water."* John 4:10. The pure olive oil represents the Holy Spirit.

The salt represents us being the salt of the earth (we are here to be a blessing for others) Matthew 5:13 says: *"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."*

We also had a bread making class where the sisters demonstrated making their own bread recipes. This was followed by a seed cracker demonstration.

It was a lovely time spent together encouraging and helping each other. We also had brother Markus, who volunteered to be there to look after the kids while the mothers were attending the cooking class. His contribution was greatly appreciated.

We all praise the Lord for the help and presence of all who attended. We are looking forward to the next one.

SA Brethren



Youth Program at Guildford Church WA

Guildford Youth Program

On the 8th of December 2019, a group of young people gathered at Guildford Church for an afternoon of vegan food demonstration, and a vegan formal dinner. The youth were asked what vegan food they wanted to learn to cook, and they chose cheesecake, brownies, and burgers. Gerson Robles demonstrated an absolutely delicious and rather complicated raw cheesecake, and Inneka Thiel demonstrated a simpler, less delicious baked cheesecake and brownies. Catherine Robles then presented vegan nutrition instruction, showing the young people how to put together simple foods for optimum nutrition. She also cited studies that showed vegan foods to be the best source of nutrition for the human body. Then it was burger time, and everyone chose their ingredients and followed a basic recipe to make their own burgers, which were then barbecued outdoors along with veggie kebabs. The sweets demonstrated previously were enjoyed for dessert.

It was break time then, while the hall was transformed into a formal dining room and the young people dressed up for a formal dinner later in the evening. Chloe Brown arrived with mountains of paraphernalia to cook a degustation style dinner. Chloe has been interested in vegan cooking for quite a while and has ambitions to create a pop-up restaurant business. Her cooking assistants were George Gurduiala and Gerson Robles, and in the serving team were Johnny Thiel, Cameron Brown, and Inneka Thiel. There were a few hiccups, such as the untimely death of the stove in the kitchen, and a dash to the closest Bunnings for a gas camping stove, but everything ran quite well.

Rather splendid-looking formally dressed young people started to gather at around 6:00 pm, and dinner began shortly after. The kitchen and serving staff were kept very busy creating and serving some of the most interesting, unusual and incredibly delicious food we had ever eaten. Every plate was a work of art. Here is the menu:

Amuse Bouche:

Rice Croquette, Pea Purée, Flower

Soup:

Purple Carrot Soup, Cream, Garlic Croutons, Garlic Flowers

Entrée:

Baby Carrots, Leek butter, Crispy shredded Carrot, Herb Salad

Main:

Tofu & Nutmeat Gems, Parsnip Purée, Broccolini, Parsnip Skin Chips, Velouté, Sage Oil

Cleanser:

Pink Dragonfruit Sorbet, Puffed Black Rice, Dragonfruit, Raspberry Coulis, Fennel Fronds

Dessert:

Cherry Ice Cream, Pecan & Sumac Biscuit, Macerated Cherries, Cream Cheese & White Chocolate Crème, Golden Burnt Caramel.

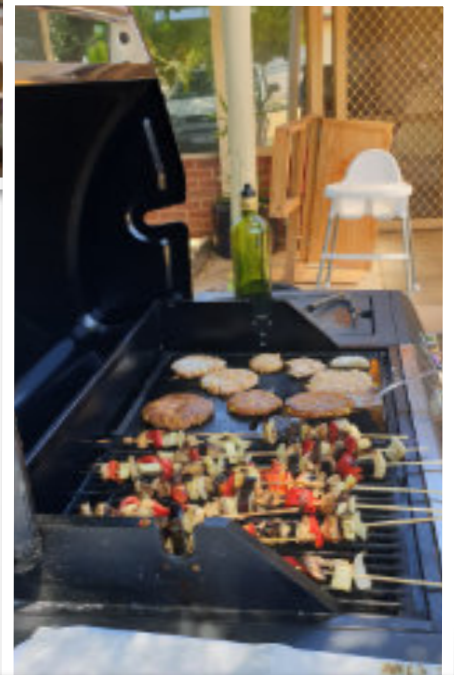
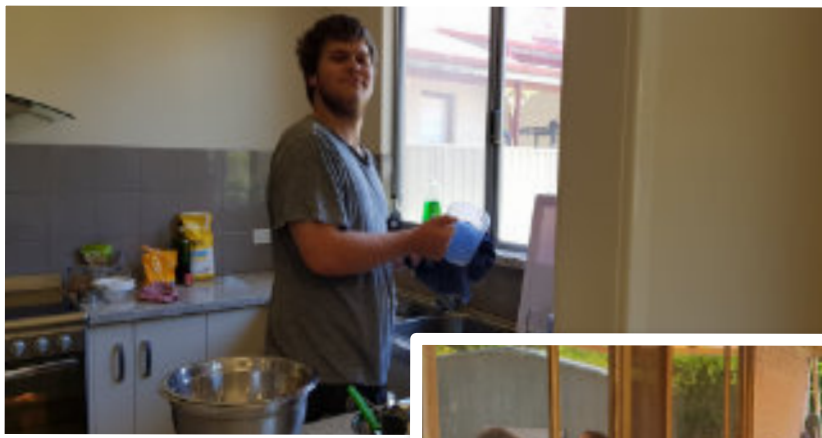
At the end of the evening, we all assured Chloe that she would have no problem getting people to come to her pop-up restaurants!





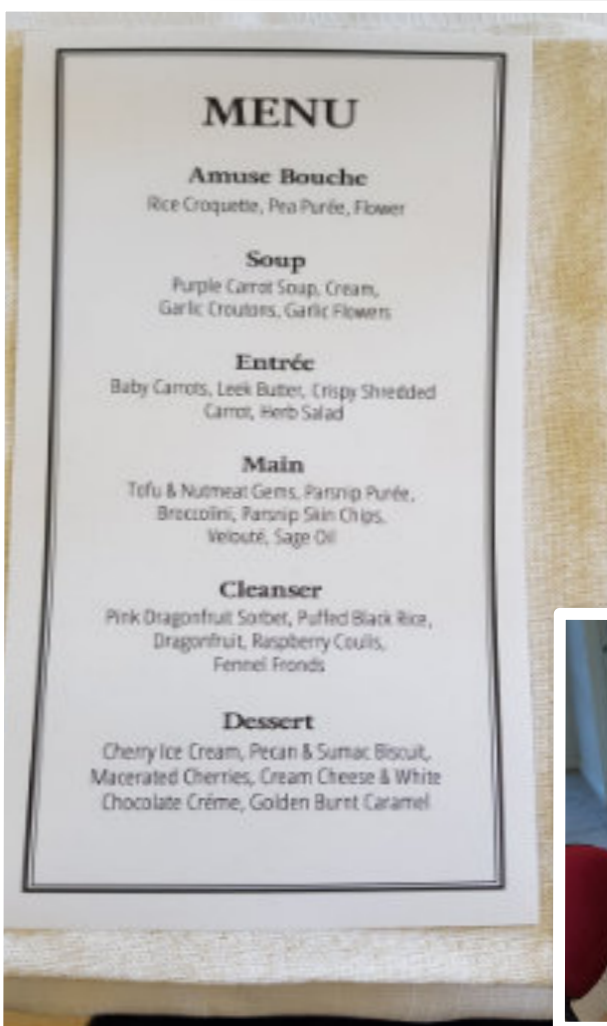
Youth Program at
Guildford Church WA
Continued





Youth Formal Dinner

Guildford Church





Women's Retreat

22-24 November 2019

What is a women's retreat? Perhaps traditionally it sounds like a vacation or an opportunity to take time off from being a wife, mother, sister or daughter. However, a women's retreat in the context of church, is a safe and open space where women of all ages and stages in life can feel free to discuss their faith, hopes, and struggles and lift each other up. It is a space of focused worship and revival so that ladies can return to their homes and families in a posture of praise, added strength and trust in the Lord. Hebrews 10:25 is very clear on the importance of gathering together for a sacred or worshipful gathering. 1 Corinthians 1:10 encourages us to be united in mind in serving Jesus Christ and 1 Corinthians 3:9 tells us that we are workers together with God and that we make up God's building. Following the teaching in 1 Timothy 5:2, we truly experienced "The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity".

Let me tell you the story of how this retreat came about and how we were all blessed through attending.

Denise and I had been planning the retreat for a few months and we both felt passionate about this project, especially because the theme of the retreat had come from a very personal place for both of us. For me, it came from a place of pain and disappointment, especially when it came to serving God. For so many years I had lived with guilt and shame, thinking that God could not forgive me for my sins, and most especially, I felt that I had to be good first before I was worthy. The biggest problem I faced is that I just could not get the hang of being good enough to feel accepted and enjoy God's acceptance. Can you relate? Through the help of friends, prayer and focused study of the Bible, I began to understand that the view I had held about God for so long was the very one responsible for my feelings of guilt and shame.

This idea was so profound that the longer I have explored it, the greater the impact it has made on me. Having had a similar experience in her view of God, Denise and I both wanted to share this concept with others. The concept is that if we hold a view of a dictatorial, angry and punitive God, then our spiritual life and relationships will reflect a spirit of fear and judgment. But if we see God the way that He really is, a God as revealed in the life of Jesus Christ, and worship a God who wants a personal relationship with each one of us, then our minds can heal. 1 John 4:18 tells us a profound and deeply logical concept about what truly heals our hearts from fear. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear: because fear has torment. He that fears is not made perfect in love."

We had planned for at least 25 women to attend, and up until that point we had received 30 registrations and there were about 15 ladies from Queensland who had planned to attend as well. Excitement was running high and we were all eager to see how it would all turn out.

On November 12th, 2019 our team had met together to discuss what final preparations needed to be made. I remember thinking as I left our meeting, "Wow! Things are going so well, and we have everything planned. Surprisingly, things have really gone without a hitch! Thank you so much Lord." I think the Lord just held my hand to prepare me, for little did I know that in just a few short hours everything was about to turn on its head.



By 8am on November 13th, 2019 we had all heard that Elim Heights Youth Camp had suffered significant damage in the unprecedented firestorm that raged through just the previous evening. It was a complete shock to say the least, and soon the question that came to our minds was, "What is going to happen with the women's retreat?" We had been planning to host the retreat at Elim Heights, and now, with only a week and a half out from when we would hold the retreat, it seemed impossible that we could go ahead. We prayed and immediately set to work. There was no doubt in my mind that we would go ahead with the retreat. It is something that I cannot explain, but I thought that if it was the Lord's will for us to continue, then doors would open if we did our part.

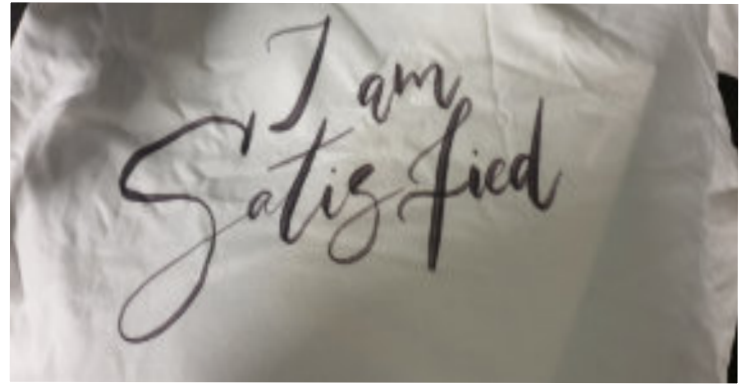
We set to work to search for a new venue, not even knowing where to begin. Through one of the phone calls made, we discovered a network where one can submit one form with a description of the venue needed and then venues which match will be in contact. It was a blessing, and through this network we received nine offers for different venues. The next three days involved travelling to different locations and liaising with our team members, all to find a location that was within budget and matched the vision we had in mind. It seemed too good to be true to find everything that we wanted and needed, but by Friday afternoon, I was sure that we had found our venue. The place was a beautiful heritage house, nestled in the Blue Mountains. The price was reasonable, and we had even secured a vegan caterer who was willing



to accommodate our requests and do her preparations on Friday for the Sabbath meals. It was perfect! I cannot thank God enough for the way he provided for us so wonderfully! Every victory and new discovery led to a stronger conviction that we were supposed to hold the retreat. A big thanks also goes to our wonderful speakers who poured their hearts into the messages they shared and who were unafraid to speak with honesty about their experiences with God and their struggles.

The next few days were busy, to say the least, but as the verse states, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

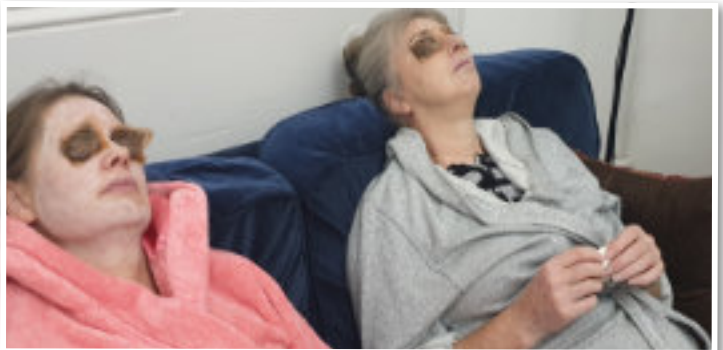
When Friday arrived and we were about to begin the retreat, it was definitely because the Lord had worked a miracle in our behalf. Thirty-six ladies gathered at the Heritage House to dive deeper into the Word of God and to learn from each other's experiences. It was an exciting time and each workshop allowed for everyone to participate and share their own experiences. On Sabbath we focused on the idea of redemption and turning our apparent failures into successes. The examples of Mary Magdalene and Tamar demonstrated examples of women that had been redeemed in an incredible way only to serve a greater purpose for the Lord.



After the retreat, one of our women made the following comment, which I think summarises the weekend quite well:

Women's Retreat was a weekend that gave women the opportunity to bond, share stories, encourage and celebrate, cry and laugh together. Kihilla Retreat in the Blue Mountains offered the perfect tranquillity and space to explore our spiritual lives together. Several speakers shared the experiences that had shaped their lives; both the successes and the failures, the lessons and the learning curves. It was a perfect mix of sharing, teambuilding and teaching each other new skills. I definitely walked away feeling Satisfied.

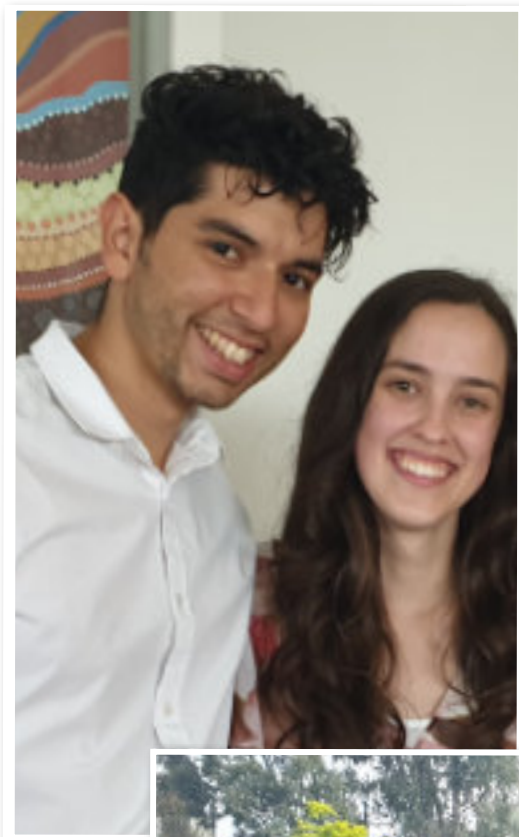
~ Report by Daniela Balarezo

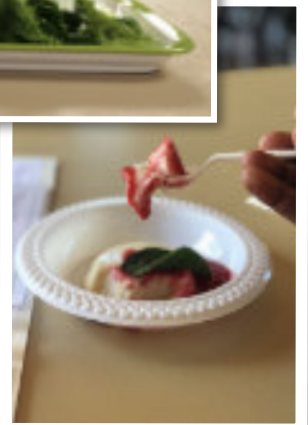


Engagement Congratulations - Ashley and Benji

It's with great joy that we would like to congratulate Ashley Sas and Benjamin Fuenzalida on their engagement announcement on the 8th September 2019. Proverbs 18:22 *"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD."*

Wishing you much happiness and God's richest blessings as you make plans to unite your lives together.





The Healthy Way Cooking Demonstrations Victoria

On the 17th of November, the Keilor Park Church in Victoria held a cooking demonstration for the local ones. Prior to the event, brochures were handed out around the area and on the World Vegan Day Exposition at the Melbourne Showgrounds. Also, advertisements on social media were shared with the community. There were great expectations to see people flocking to this cooking class.

A place - located on 1A South Rd, Airport West - was hired to receive the attendees. It was a nice community centre with a huge hall and all furniture necessary to run this important event.

On the day, we arrived an hour earlier to organise everything and set up the venue.

We had the goal to prepare four dishes by different sisters and then had some tasting samples. So, we started at 1:30pm with 5 local participants - actually one of them came from a very distant place, and he mentioned he received a brochure on the World Vegan Day exposition, so "marketing is the soul of the business!" :)

The participants had to fill out a form with their personal information and then received a recipe book binder with the recipes of the day inside it.

The first and second dishes were prepared by Sister Susanna Mandic and they were: 1) Almost Raw Vegan Tacos and 2) Scrambled Tofu Egg - they were amazing, and everyone enjoyed them. The last dish 3) Hearty Mushroom Stroganoff was made by Sister Natasha Duna, and it was delicious!

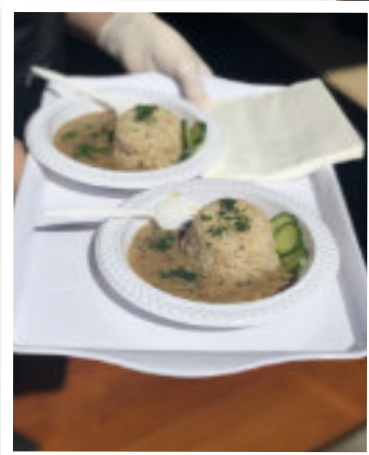
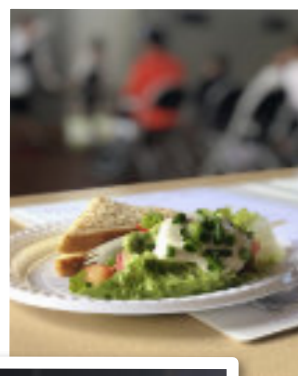
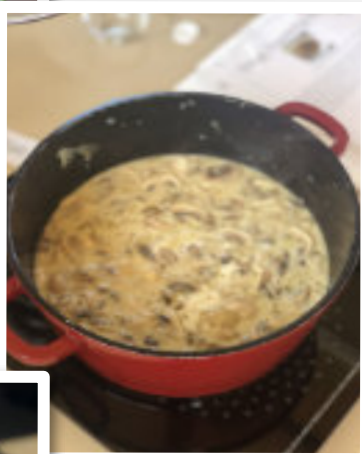
While we were waiting for the last dish, sister Florica Cornja shared a very heart-touching experience regarding her personal experience into the vegetarian/vegan diet and how God helped her to turn a page in her life - when battling with cancer - to a healthy lifestyle.

Last but not least, 9-year-old Amelia Duna - Sr. Natasha's daughter - had a nice presentation as well; she prepared what everyone expects right after lunch - yes, exactly, dessert! - and she made a very yummy 4) Coconut Pudding with Berry Banger Sauce. Everything ran smoothly; however, we can't forget to mention that "behind the stage" we had Sister Esther Boje and Sister Florica Cornja helping out with the free food samples that were offered to the participants for tasting just after the end of each presentation. Additionally, Bro. Randy Acquiatan and Bro. Miguel Mendoza were there to give us a hand throughout the event.

Finally, every participant received a book "Hope for the Hurting" or "Steps to Christ" as a small gift for their participation in the Healthy Way Cooking Demonstration.

We want to give thanks to the Lord for His mercies and blessings which helped us out to run this event and guess what?!... We have more cooking demos coming up, stay tuned!

God bless you, and keep us in your prayers.



Singing at the Dudley Foord House

19 October 2019

On a very comfortable and sunny October Sabbath afternoon, Sister Catharina Sas together with the residents of Dudley Foord House rejoiced in community singing organised by Focus Singers. Items of praise to God were offered by the children, Focus Singers, soloists, instrumentalists, and groups. What a wonderful way to spend some of the Sabbath hours, bringing joy to the elderly while at the same time praising our heavenly Father!

At the end of the meeting, the events coordinator and several of the residents thanked us for coming and expressed how happy they were for the musical program and how the message in song touched their hearts. The invitation was given for us to return; they are all looking forward to the next time.

We pray God will bless the work being done by the music ministry.





Western Australia Field Camp 2019



It's Friday 27th of September 2019. There is excitement and expectancy at the Barber's farm, as tenters and caravaners alike roll in throughout the day to set up their sites around the campfire circle.

During the week prior to camp, Luke Kneebone had been busy traveling back and forth to tow the mobile ablution block, the meeting chairs, other needed equipment and of course the meeting marquee, which was now neatly set up within the camp circle.

Our camp theme? "Spiritual Discipline", which encompassed the different aspects of our individual needs, such as prayer, worship, Bible study, fellowship, stewardship, serving, evangelism, and even fasting, all of which we need. Our camp focus? To learn how to practice practical discipline, that all these may be successfully incorporated into our daily lives, thereby improving our connection with Christ and each other.

We were all very much encouraged by every meeting and a number of testimonies that were also shared. Two meetings were most memorable. I still think about them, even now. One was taken by Shelley Gurduiala on prayer. So very inspiring as she shared snippets, thoughts and events from the life of George Muller, focusing on how we too can have this same amazing prayer life. The other, taken by Luke Kneebone, on church fellowship. This was an experience we very rarely are privileged to have. I doubt I can do it justice by mere words. The meeting started out as what one would call a heart-reaching meeting and quickly tumbled into a meeting of sharing. We each opened up to our true thoughts and feelings, in regard to how we view our communication with each other on Sabbaths. It was such a blessing for all of us to open up to each other honestly and openly, as we shared our personal testimonies and confessions, and as we discovered, most of us hide our true selves. Sometimes because of embarrassment of what others may think, sometimes because we think we are the only ones who could possibly have these thoughts, feelings, or trials, and sometimes because we feel our brethren in Christ won't understand. But we soon discovered we were all the same, with the same needs from each other and that it was time to stop hiding our true selves for fear of censorship. This is true Christian fellowship and we cannot help one another without it.







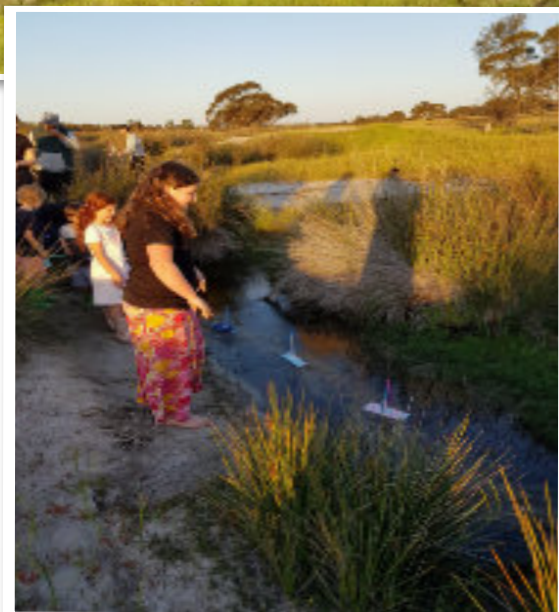
WA Field Camp 2019 Continued

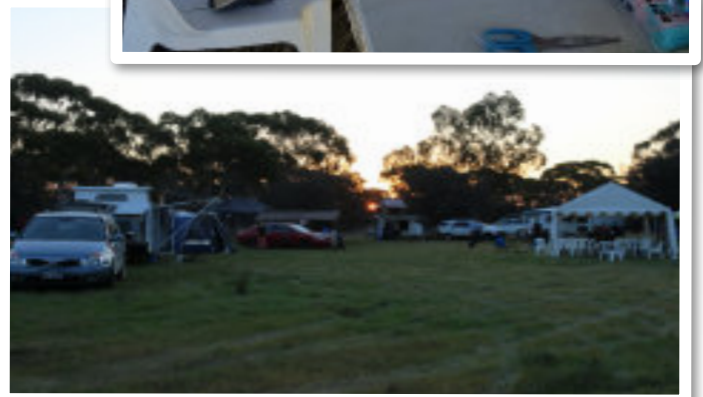


In spite of an unusual season of flies and ticks by day and mosquitoes by night, the spirits were not dampened in the slightest. Between meetings through the day, there were explorative walks, trailer rides with young and old who were young at heart and boat racing at the creek with little boats made by the children. The evenings were enjoyed around the campfire by all. Stories were shared, games played, and there was general chatting into the night by the warmth of the fire's flame, which lit the camp circle with an ambient glow.

Sadly, our camp came to an end, and we all wished it could have continued for at least another week. Reality setting in, camp pack up began after Monday morning worship. It drew on throughout the day, as one by one, we each said our goodbyes and departed our different ways. I am sure we are all looking forward to field camp meeting 2020.

~ Robyn Barber





Schofields Church Vegetarian Cooking Classes

14, 21, 28 October 2019

Our scheduled vegetarian cooking classes took place once again during three consecutive Monday evenings in October. The health lectures were presented by Sisters Danica Tyler and Susan Lausevic. They covered these topics:

Bone Health – Osteoporosis affects 1 million Australians

Prevention of Diabetes – In Australia, 280 people develop diabetes daily.

H2O – What do you know about H2O? How important is water. Our bodies comprise of 60% water.

The following dishes were demonstrated:

Tofu and Spinach Canapes

Quinoa Tabouli

Charred Asparagus

Roasted Potatoes

Raspberry Oat Bars

Vegetable and Red Lentil Roast

Honeyed Carrots

Tomato, Eggplant and Capsicum Relish

Lemon Drop Cookies

Strawberry Lime Mousse

Seeded Crackers

Roasted Carrot Dip

Roasted Beetroot Hummus

Cucumber Walnut Pâté Bites

Spinach and Cheese Cob

Red Lentil Patties

Vegan Cheesecake

Blueberry Lemon Lavender Ice Cream

Lavender Syrup



Below are a few recipes for you to enjoy. These lectures and cooking demonstrations can be viewed on YouTube by searching for “Schofields Church Cooking Demonstration”. FYI here are the links for the October Sessions:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Px8rqS_rMFQ&t=323s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhZLNiiBDzg&t=157s>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T8XGCR_-ZHo&t=98s

We continue to pray that those who attended the sessions will be benefited by the information received and the demonstration of foods promoting better health.



Vegetable and Red Lentil Roast

INGREDIENTS

1½ cups dry red lentils, washed
3 cups water
1 Tbsp Massel 'chicken-style' stock powder
1 onion, finely chopped
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 carrot, finely grated
½ stick celery, finely chopped
2 cups button mushrooms, chopped
2 cups kale, chopped
2 cups spinach, chopped
1 Tbsp ground sage
½ tsp thyme
½ tsp salt
2 Tbsp Bragg Liquid Aminos
¼ cup water
2½ cups oats
Olive oil, to grease pan

METHOD

- In large pan, add lentils, 3 cups water and stock powder, bring to a boil, cover, and turn down heat. Simmer until soft, about 8 minutes.
- In another pan, add onions, garlic, carrot, celery, mushrooms, kale, spinach, Bragg, salt, and herbs with ¼ cup water and cook until tender.
- In a bowl, combine all ingredients, add oats and stir.
- Lightly oil a 23x12.5cm loaf pan and spoon mixture into pan. Bake at 170°C for about 1 hour or until loaf starts to brown slightly on top and sides lift away from edges.
- Cool and refrigerate.

Note: Cooking time may vary. Don't overcook or loaf will be dry.
Once cool, the loaf can be sliced and eaten cold or reheated.

Honeyed Carrots

INGREDIENTS

12-15 small carrots, peeled and tops trimmed (ordinary carrots can be used, cut in chunks)
2 Tbsp olive oil
3 Tbsp honey
Salt to taste
Herbs and sesame seeds for garnishing (optional)

METHOD

- Preheat oven to 200°C. Line a baking tray with baking paper.
- In a bowl, mix the olive oil, honey, and salt to make a sauce.
- Add the carrots and toss to coat.
- Place the carrots in a single layer on baking tray.
- Place in the oven and bake for 25-35 minutes or until carrots are tender and browned. Baking time will vary slightly depending on the size of the carrots.
- Remove from the oven and sprinkle with herbs if desired.
- Best served hot.

Tomato, Eggplant and Capsicum Relish

INGREDIENTS

1 large eggplant
1 red capsicum
1 clove garlic
1 Tbsp tomato paste
Salt to taste
Olive oil to drizzle



METHOD

- Preheat the oven to 230°C.
- Line a baking tray with baking paper and add the eggplant and capsicum.
- Bake for about 30 minutes until veggies are soft.
- Peel the eggplant and capsicum, removing as much seed as possible from the capsicum.
- Blitz garlic and vegetables in food processor until creamy.
- Add tomato paste and salt to taste.
- Drizzle with olive oil.
- Serve with roast.

Blueberry Lemon Lavender Ice Cream

INGREDIENTS

1 cup raw cashews
1 can (400g) full fat coconut cream
1½ cups fresh or frozen blueberries
2/3 cup lavender infused maple syrup (See recipe below)
1 Tbsp vanilla extract
1½ Tbsp lemon juice
1½ tsp lemon zest

METHOD

- Soak cashews in water for 2 hours (or overnight). Drain and rinse.
- Pre-cool ice cream maker if necessary.
- Combine all ingredients in a high-speed blender, and blend until creamy.
- Pour mixture into ice cream maker, and process as per maker directions
- Transfer ice cream to a freezer-safe container with a lid, and freeze for a few hours. Remove from freezer about 5-10 minutes before scooping. Enjoy!



Lavender Syrup

INGREDIENTS

¾ cup maple syrup
10 stems of lavender flowers

METHOD

- Wash and pound the lavender flowers and pat dry with paper towel.
- In a small saucepan add maple syrup and lavender and bring to a simmer for about a minute.
- Remove from heat, cover and let infuse for a minimum of an hour, preferably longer. Strain and set aside.

~ Lidia Voncina

Queensland Camp 2019

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." Galatians 5:22, 23.

The Queensland Conference yearly camp was held on the 9-11 August 2019. This camp took place at Samford Village, Qld.

The theme for the camp was "The Fruit of the Spirit". There were many activities that took place during this camp: spiritual meetings, musical items, discussion groups, walks, orienteering and water activities.

All who attended the camp were very blessed by the prepared program and left for home enriched.

"The husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain." James 5:7. So the Christian is to wait with patience for the fruition in his life of the word of God. Often when we pray for the graces of the Spirit, God works to answer our prayers by placing us in circumstances to develop these fruits; but we do not understand His purpose, and wonder, and are dismayed. Yet none can develop these graces except through the process of growth and fruit bearing. Our part is to receive God's word and to hold it fast, yielding ourselves fully to its control, and its purpose in us will be accomplished." Christ's Object Lesson, p. 61.

Turtles Know Whats Up...

"Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the Lord." Jeremiah 8:7

Every year when the season comes, turtles make the gigantic trek and migrate back thousands of miles across the ocean to the very beach where they were born to find a mate and lay their eggs. The cycle goes on...

Turtles know what's up.

If only humanity would know the season we're living in. Our Saviour is just about to show up to marry His bride and take us home to be with Him forever! He longs for us to return to the One who birthed us, to reconnect with the Vine who freely gives us life. . .

"Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 3:7

Turns out we don't have to make a gigantic trek to migrate back to Him. God Himself has already made that trek 2,000 years ago. Today He waits outside the door of our hearts. . .

wooing. . . calling. . . whispering. . .

"Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will eat together." Revelation 3:20 CEV

I can't wait for that day to arrive and for that meal I'll share with Him in person!

Turtles know what's up.

~ By Jared Chapman



Photo by Randall Ruiz on Unsplash

Condolences to the Matthies Family

It is with sad hearts that we would like to extend our sincere condolences to the Matthies Family on the loss of their loved one. Sister Shirley fell asleep in Jesus on the 12th September 2019. We look forward to meeting her once again at Jesus' feet.

In Loving Memory of Shirley Patricia Matthies

3 Oct 1931 - 12 Sept 2019

Shirley born on 3.10.1931 to Lilly and Percival Wilson, was the eldest of 6 siblings: Stanley, Olga, Barbara (dec'd), Helen and Beverley. The family, lived at Murraguldrrie in NSW where the children went to school for some years before they moved to North Wagga Wagga. The children's father later passed away and some time after, their mother Lilly married Victor Ross. Shirley has 2 step brothers, John and Les.

As the eldest child, Shirley assisted in helping with her siblings and other household chores. One of the chores was to milk the cows. Shirley, being a lover of Country Music, would often be heard yodelling to the cows while milking. Shirley also started work at a young age, working in various retail positions and also as a Receptionist.

Throughout her life, Shirley spoke very highly of her Grandfather, Brother Hynes, a man of strong belief in God and the Advent Message. Grandfather would study the Bible and the Testimonies and would teach Shirley, along with her siblings about God and many times, take them to church and to camp meetings of Adventist faith. Grandfather became a Reformer later on, of which Shirley was also a member for many years of her life.

During her teens, Shirley met her first husband Leslie Lidden, also from North Wagga. Leslie though not a Christian at the time, was a man committed to helping others in trouble. He played a large part in the rescue of Shirley's two sisters, Olga and Barbara, along with others from drowning in the Murrumbidgee River.

In December of 1951 Shirley and Leslie married. Shirley was 20 years of age at this time. They had 2 sons, Kerry and Leslie. After only 2 ½ years of marriage, husband Leslie was tragically killed in June of 1954, approximately 3 months prior to Shirley giving birth to son Leslie. When Leslie was on his deathbed, Shirley had opportunity to speak to her husband about God. Leslie gave his heart to God before he passed away.

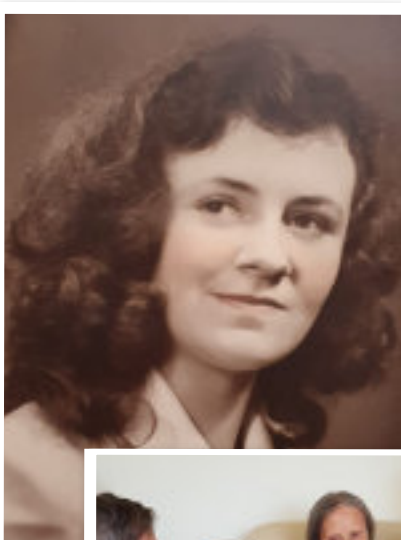
Widowed at 23 years of age, Shirley faithfully raised her two sons on her own for the next 17 years. Shirley did her very best to provide for and keep her boys healthy. During this time Shirley also became more health conscious and became vegetarian. Shirley would spend early mornings in the kitchen, making her own bread, soy milk and cream, along with other healthy goods including the all-time family favourite Nutmeat sausages. Along with healthy cooking, Shirley was also keen on natural treatments. As she read her way more into health and natural remedies, she would often assist family members and neighbours with treatments. Lemon poultices were one of the major treatments she used for ailments such as boils, colds and even a severe case of tetanus with one of her sons. Family and friends would call Shirley to ask what to do for their ailments.



Shirley later met New Zealander Laurence Matthies, a member of the Reform Movement. Shirley and Laurence married in 1971. Their daughter Jodie was born in March of 1974. They continued living in Wagga Wagga. They along with daughter Jodie attended home church for many years, until eventually the Uranquinty Church was built and established in 1994.

Shirley is the grandmother of 6 grandchildren and the great grandmother of 13 great grandchildren, the youngest of the great grandchildren being a set of identical twin girls, the first ever in the family. Shirley adored each and every one of her grand and great grandchildren. One grandson was tragically killed in 2011.

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18.



Soybeans Hands-on Workshop

We thank God for being able to reach out to the community once again. A very happy day was held at Schofields Function Centre on Sunday 28th July 2019. Over twenty excited people came to join in our hands-on soybeans workshop.



The morning started off with a short lecture by Sr Danica Tyler on the benefits of soybeans. Then the audience was split into seven groups as there were seven workshop stations where they would learn how to prepare different soybean items. Each group then rotated to a different station every twenty minutes or so in order to be able to cover all workstations:

Station 1: *Soymilk* - **Danica & Daniela**

Station 2: *Tofu* – **Lidia and Joe**

Station 3: *Soy Spread (Tartex)* - **Rosetta & Rosemary**

Station 4: *Soybean Curd Wraps* - **Tanya & Larry**

Station 5: *Okra & Corn Patties* - **Amy & Stela**

Station 6: *Scrambled Tofu Egg* - **Anne & Lusinda**

Station 7: *Tofu Blueberry Cheesecake* - **Vivian & Lilly**

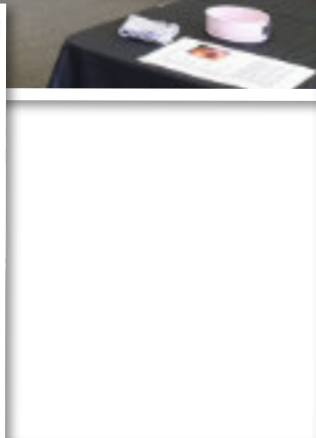


The day finished with a combined lunch consisting of all the food items prepared on the day. All visitors expressed their thanks and are looking forward to the next workshop. We thank God for the health message which He has entrusted to us and for the privilege to share with those around us.

Thank you to all who helped make this day such a success.

~ Lidia Voncina





Western Australia's Raw Food Week

This year we were thankful to hold “The Raw Food Program” week at SDARM Guildford Church, Perth, Western Australia on 5-14 July 2019. The program was organised by the Union Health Department. Susan Lausevic and Veronica Hake were able to go from Sydney to demonstrate and inspire the local church, members and friends, who chose to participate in a Raw Food Health program.

To start off, an orientation day was organised and Linda Newman (Naturopath) carried out health assessments on all the participants. A program including simple green smoothie recipes and green drinks were demonstrated and enjoyed on the first day to kick start the daily breakfast routine.

Each day a different lunch main meal menu was organised and demonstrated while participants on allocated tables followed by doing the same. Main meals consisted of a variety of dishes such as zoodle pasta, veggie curry and cauliflower rice, creamy pea mint soup, various dips, stuffed capsicum, dehydrated flax seed crackers, salads and dressings. Desserts like blueberry cheesecake, carob peppermint mousse, lemon slice and various fresh fruits were delightful. Each day after the program we all sat down to enjoy the daily workshop meals.

Throughout the Raw Food Health week program lectures and presentations on the benefits of raw foods were enjoyed by all. We also enjoyed fun sessions making natural facials and just enjoying each other's fellowship.

On the first Sabbath Br Luke Kneebone presented an inspiring message on “The Strength to Change” to kick start the program; whilst on the second Sabbath Br Jacques Payet concluded with a message on “God's Health Plan for You”. In the afternoon, a Raw Food display of lunch was enjoyed by all especially the cheesecake dessert made during the program. During the afternoon meeting all were given opportunity to give testimonies of how they felt during the Raw Food program as many were continuing with the programs in their own homes with their families. All in all, the program proved to be a real blessing for all who attended including ourselves, and would like to thank our Heavenly Father for all His bounties and the progressive health reform message. May we continue to hold fast to this message and be an example to those around us.

1 Corinthians 10:31

“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

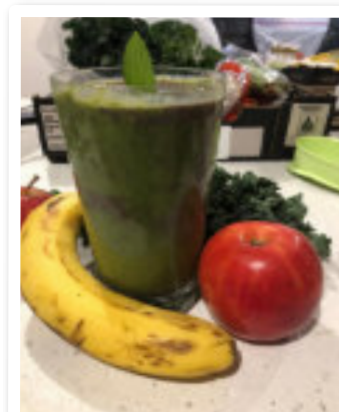
3 John 1:2

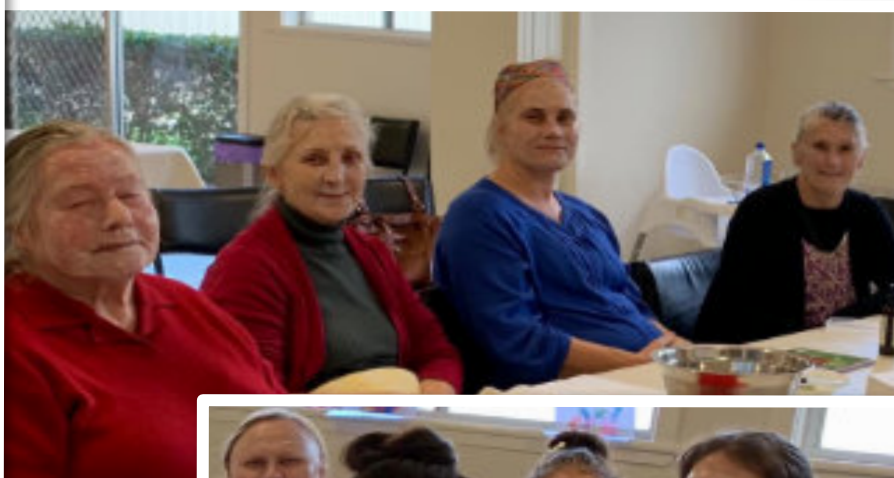
“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”

Romans 12:1

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

~ From Susan Lausevic and Veronica Hake







WA Raw Food Week



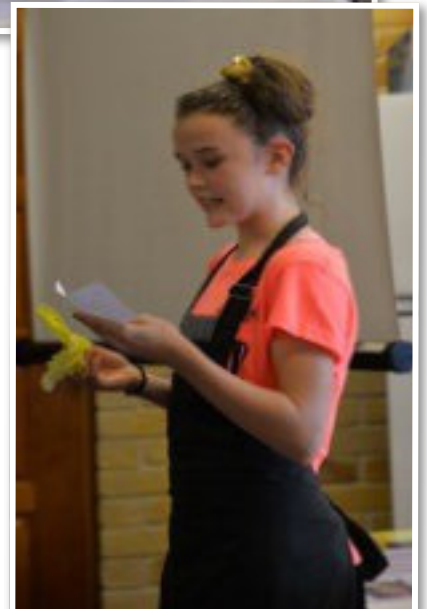
Sunshine Coast Winter Outreach and Cooking Demonstration

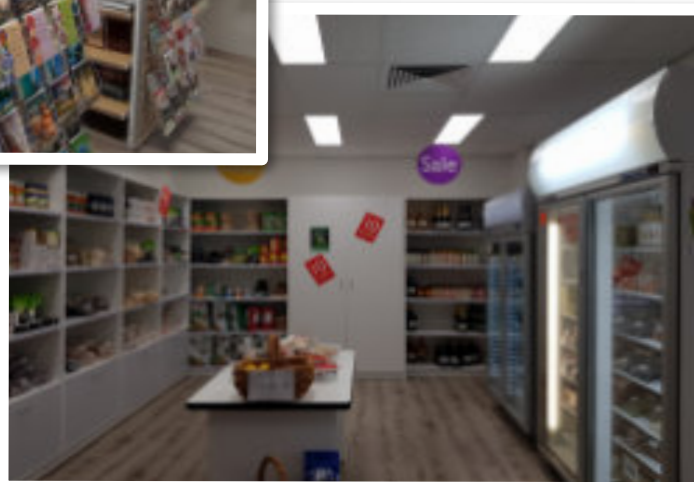
Queensland members and church friends shared a lovely combined Sabbath (29 June) together at Woombye Church as we learnt more of the rewards and blessings of canvassing work.

Energetic children and adults spent the next morning (Sunday, 30 June) letterboxing, while others prepared for a health presentation and cooking demonstration. We had spent the previous few weekends letterboxing invites around the church area and surrounding country towns, and God blessed us with a number of new visitors as well as some familiar faces. The children had short presentations on health benefits of different vegetables and helped with giving out food tasting samples. All the attendees enjoyed the health presentation, cooking demonstration and vegan dinner and many put their names down to be notified of similar events.

We all joined in letterboxing on Monday and Tuesday mornings and then met up together at Cotton Tree Park at Maroochydore for lunch. After lunch and time in nature at the park, we slowly made our way back to Woombye and prepared a combined dinner together. After a lovely dinner each night, we had an evening worship presented by the Bible workers.

We thank God that we could spend time witnessing and sharing with others, working together as a church and pray that the seeds sown will grow to harvest.





Elim Store

Stocktake Sale

Having the new Elim Health & Bookstore up and running has been an exciting and busy time with so much to do in its everyday operations, and so naturally, the buzz continued to fill the air with our first Stocktake Sale which took place on Sunday 30th of June, 2019.

With any event, the preparations are always something that will keep you on your toes, and our stocktake sale preparations did not fail in doing just that.

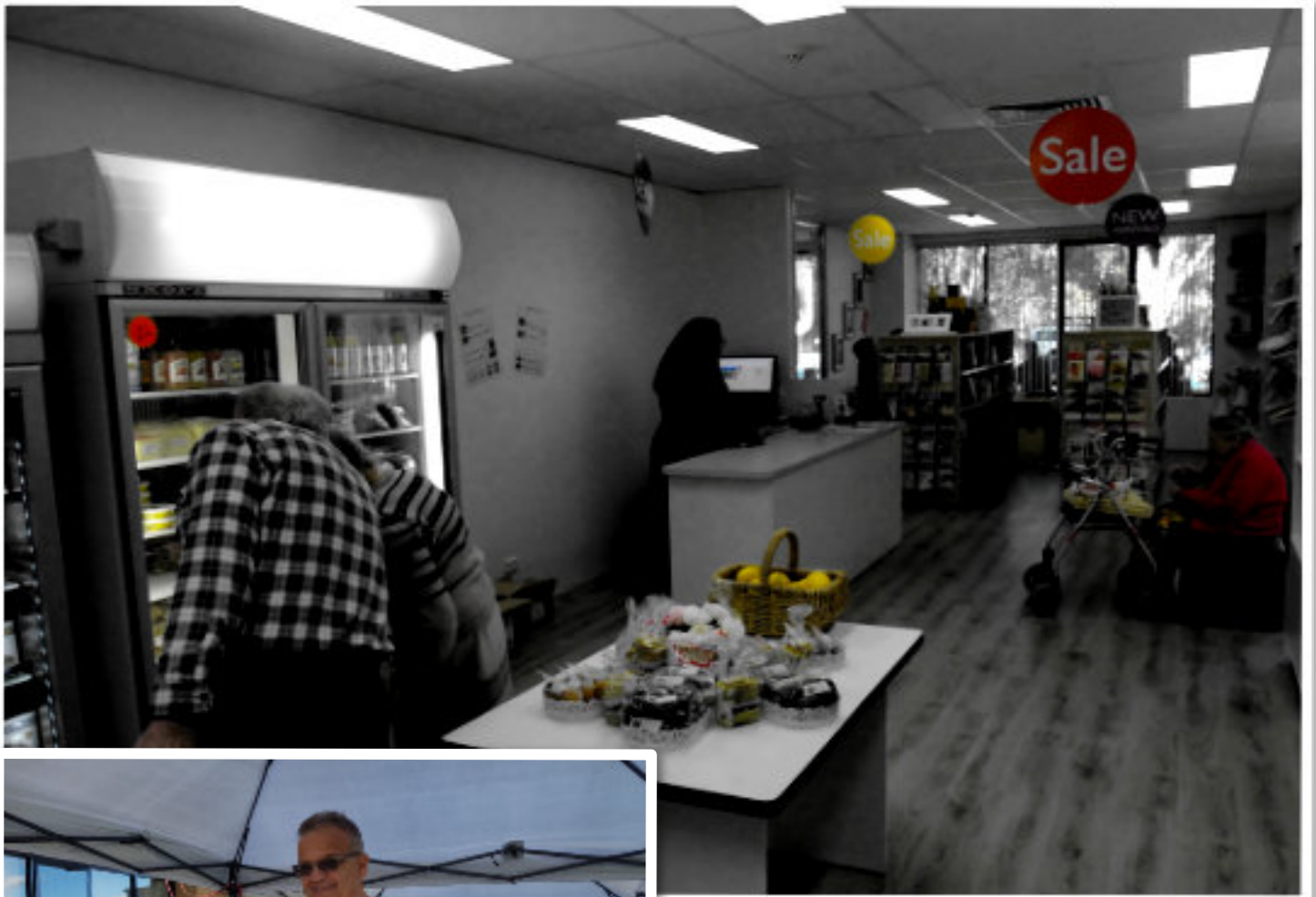
We opened our doors at 10am with stocktake discounts of 10% off storewide. While there were happy shoppers inside the store, the beautiful weather outside was clearly there to be enjoyed, so jumping castles went up to entertain the children and a food stall was set outside by our Elim Health Team and their helpers where they were selling delicious homemade delights to savor everyone's taste buds.

On the menu for the day were choices of Pumpkin or Split Pea soups, Nutmeat & Veggie or Cheesy Vegan Broccoli pies (crowd favorite!) and a choice of Caramel Slice or Rocky Road Slice for dessert which could be accompanied by either Hot Herbal Tea or a Hot Soya Cappuccino. Everything was delicious and so tastefully good that it was great to see many go back for seconds, thirds and even stocked up for home to share with family.

Overall, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by the good turnout we had from our community and church members alike. The Stocktake Sale was a great success and we could not have done it without the help and support of our Sydney church family. Most importantly, we give thanks to God for His bountiful blessings which have allowed us to share His love and truth with our community and its surroundings through the Elim Health & Bookstore.

God bless,

~ Tanya Ah-Ching





NSW Camp 2019

7-10 June 2019

“NO PLACE LIKE HOME”

In what was to be one of the last functions held in the historic hall at Elim Heights Youth Camp, families came together to share in a family-themed spiritual feast, at the 2019 New South Wales Camp. Sharing the property with another group was a new but positive experience, and the weekend was a blessing to all.



With topics such as “Lord of the Home,” “Joy of the Home,” “Gateway to Heaven,” and “The Greatest Sermon,” we focused on how we can come closer together as families and ultimately how we can prepare for our heavenly home.

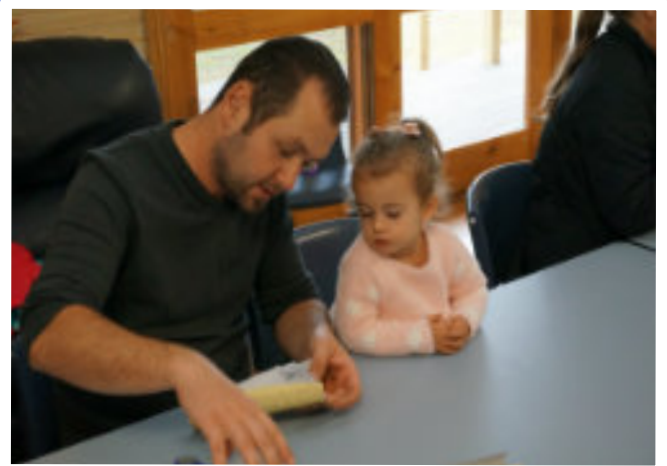
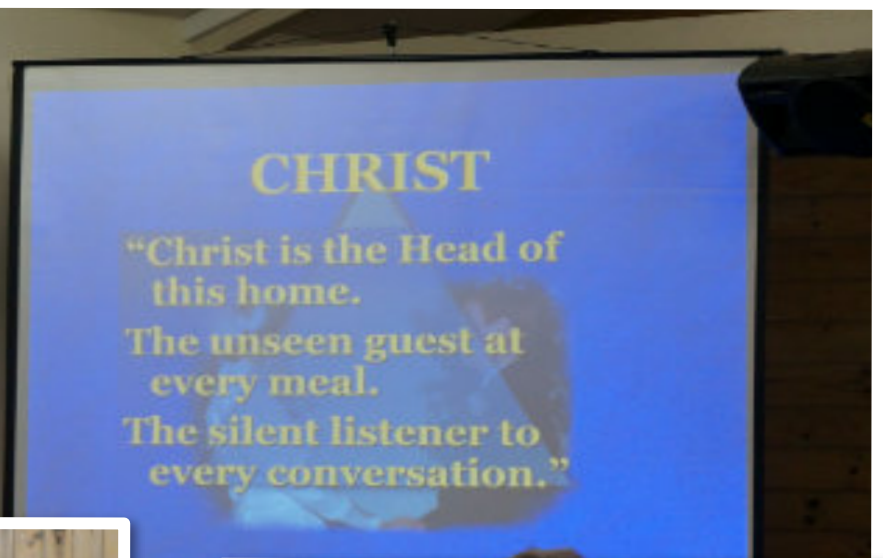
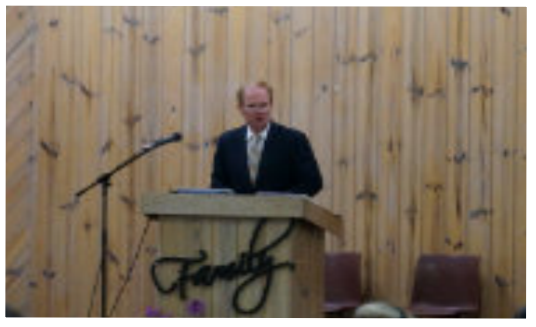
Youth were involved in practical workshops, teaching them how to know God’s will for themselves; covering principles that they can use to know God’s will for them through life’s important decisions and how to communicate effectively in various environments such as courtship, home, work, school, etc.

Parents discussed questions such as, What does it mean to train up our children? What are we training them for? Workshops looked at God’s plan in the education and discipline of our children—demonstrating and discussing what it takes to raise “godly seed.”

Of course there were lovely meals, wonderful opportunities for fellowship, and recreational activities to be enjoyed.

The lasting impression of the “No Place Like Home” camp was the question—what is the greatest argument in favor of Christianity? The answer: a Christian family. Why is it so powerful? We learned that the family is one of the most potent powers to convict souls on the truth of Christ and the gospel.





Schofields Church Vegetarian Cooking Classes

13, 20 & 27 May 2019

As per our practice over the past few years, it was time to hold another series of vegetarian cooking classes for the community, at Schofields Church. Once again, an eager audience was waiting with many familiar faces as well as many new ones. There was an average of 65 attendees per week. These classes took place on three consecutive Mondays evenings starting at 7:30pm.

The health lectures were taken by Sisters Danica Tyler and Susan Lausevic. Danica prepared a very interesting topic for the first week. This was about "Antiaging". Some tips on how to stay young were shared. If you wish to watch it, here is the link to the YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEUmO6Ee0jI&feature=share>

The second week, Sr. Danica's topic was on Gluten-free foods. This was very much appreciated by many. Again, it is found on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOIBsoOkjUk>

The final week, Sr. Susan Lausevic's topic was: "What do you know about H2O". She took us through the importance of water for our bodies. Our bodies are made up of 60% water. Susan shared some interesting facts. You can view this lecture on:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_5zVu7tv4k&t=169s

Each evening there were a number of delicious dishes demonstrated; all were able to sample them:

Hommus
Mozzarella Cheese
Baked Red Capsicum with Garlic
Bread – Gluten-Free Seed and Nut Bread
Bread – Quinoa Flat Bread
Watercress Salad
Grilled Asparagus, Rocket & Tomato Salad
Cheesy Broccoli Pie
Black Beans & Sweet Potato Casserole
Cannellini Beans Casserole
Avocado Frozen Cake
Gluten-free Lemon Slice
Vegan Coconut Custard
Poached Pears



Why not try this delicious avocado frozen cake recipe. It may become one of your favourite recipes.



Avocado Frozen Cake

INGREDIENTS

Base:

1 cup dates
1 cup almonds
1 tablespoon desiccated coconut
Pinch of sea salt

To serve (optional):

Pistachios & Berries

Filling:

4 medium size ripe avocados
1 ripe banana
½ cup maple syrup
¼ cup melted coconut oil
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Zest and juice of 1 lime
Juice of 1 lemon



METHOD

Base

- Place almonds and sea salt into a food processor and process until finely chopped.
- Add dates and coconut, process until you get a sticky almond-date crumble.
- Transfer mixture to an 18cm spring form pan and press down evenly into the bottom of pan.
- Set aside until filling is ready. If you're making the base ahead of time, then place the base in the freezer until ready to make the filling.

Filling

- Cut avocados in half and scoop the flesh into a blender.
- Add the rest of the filling ingredients.
- Blend until you get a creamy and smooth mixture. Taste and add more maple syrup or lemon juice if required.
- Pour the mixture into prepared base and carefully smooth out the top.

Freeze for at least 6 hours or overnight. Sit at room temperature for 10 minutes before serving.
Sprinkle with pistachios and serve with berries (Optional).

We pray God will work in the hearts of the people who attend these demonstrations so they will live healthier lives and be drawn to God and glorify His name.

~ Lidia Voncina



NSW Youth Community Program

Every plan or project begins with an idea. This idea grew from the heart of our Welfare Leader who wanted to serve God and those in her community and live in obedience to the Word of God. We find that all throughout the Bible, God had a plan in place for those who are to be cared for, nurtured and loved. To *'visit the fatherless and the widows'* (James 1:27), *to comfort and set the oppressed free* (Isaiah 58:6).

The idea was simple. Gather youth from Seven Hills between the ages of 12-17 and invite them to participate in a six-week program that would be a safe space to discuss and learn in community. The program would delve into real, current topics such as alcohol and drug abuse, bullying, the effects of pornography and what they can do to overcome or rise above these issues. However, we wanted to have speakers with experience, speakers who could share their story and testimony and give a real perspective of how these things had affected them, especially as teenagers.

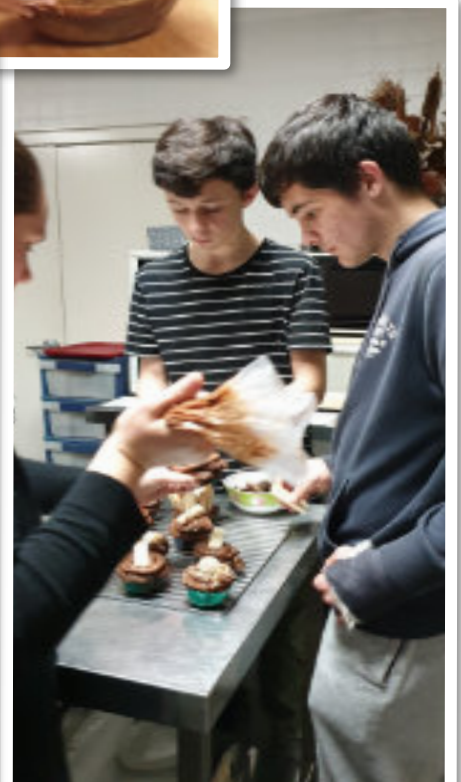
With a plan in hand we set out to door knock the area of Seven Hills to both promote our program and sign up potential attendees. This is where we learned to practice optimism and persistence especially since many were interested but would not sign up. We knew we could not do this without firm reliance on God and much prayer and God blessed our efforts with seven youth attending our first program day on Monday, 29th of April at 6pm. Each night, we began with games and icebreakers and then moved into the topic for the evening. Each time, the topics were structured in a different way, sometimes it was done in a speaker forum, and in others we held group discussions lead by facilitators. Each night, we prayed that our current attendance would not wane, and we worked to invite more youth to attend. One of the most meaningful presentations was given by a man who had been addicted to alcohol and drugs for most of his life. It was a very real and raw testimony which he shared, which clearly showed that no one is beyond redemption and that God is still working miracles in our world today. Other testimonies were given. One speaker presented separately to the boys. The other speaker, to the girls. These discussion groups allowed the youth to interact with the speakers. One spoke about the effects that pornography had on his life, while the other speaker gave her testimony as to what her life had been before surrendering to Jesus and how he had completely saved her.

The six weeks ended with a celebration of all that had been achieved, and nothing speaks to community more than a meal together. Thank the Lord, the results of the program were evident from the onset, especially with one young participant explaining how he is a constant target of bullies in his school and how this program has helped him find acceptance and a safe place free from judgment and abuse.

When this program ended, we realised that there was no way we were going to stop and leave things when we had such a good start! So, after taking a month's break, we continued doing monthly program days and workshops where we invited the youth to come together to do a number of different activities on different days such as cooking, baking, woodwork or gardening. We actually have one of our program days right around the corner, and we ask for your prayers that this may continue blessing the youth who attend. This is only the beginning, but we have been shown how God is working with us and for the Seven Hills community, and we just want to continue to be channels for His plans and see the results that only come from God. Not only that, but as the old saying goes 'where there is a will, there is a way' and with God, He will not only make a way but make all things possible because He loves to bless His children in every corner of the earth.

P.S. If you would like to donate towards this project, please make your donations to the NSW Welfare Department. Many thanks for your contribution!

For anyone wanting more information as to the harmful effects of pornography or wanting help, go to <https://www.fightthenewdrug.org>



Auckland Church Baptism

27 April 2019

On 27th April 2019 - a cloudy, mild Sabbath day, New Lynn Church in Auckland was preparing for a special event. Brother Jonas and Sister Micah Alcantara were about to recommit their lives to their Lord Jesus in baptism.

Brother Jonas and Sister Micah had been married in December 2018 and were now living in Orewa, not far from Auckland. From the time of their wedding, Brother Rolly had completed many Bible studies with them.

Members from as far away as Palmerston North, Hamilton, Whangarei and Kaitia gathered at the church, where we also welcomed Brother Nathan Tyler from Australia as the guest speaker.

The key text Brother Nathan read at the divine service was from Colossians 1:12, 13 "Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son."

Brother Nathan's stirring message was entitled "Deliver Us From Evil." He recounted an event where one of the brethren fell down a cliff during a camp at Elim Heights and injured several vertebrae. She was helpless and relied on the first aiders and later paramedics to bring her to safety. He made this an analogy to our spiritual state, where we fall into sin and have no way to deliver ourselves – but God "is able to deliver us from the power of darkness."

The new birth produces joy and dependence on God. Romans 8:1 says, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit." "Sin and pollution abound on every hand, and daily, hourly, the prayer should ascend to heaven, 'Deliver us from evil.' The offering of this prayer by one who realizes his weakness makes the temptation of the enemy powerless" (The Signs of the Times, March 29, 1905).

After a wonderful combined lunch, we all drove in convoy around ten minutes to the Taumanu Reserve, Onehunga, where there was a grassy reserve, a shelly beach, flat seas, full sun, and no wind – a beautiful spot for a baptism. We began by singing the hymn "Just as I am."

Brother Nathan then read the account of Jesus' baptism,

culminating in God's words "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Brother Nathan said he was joyful Jonas and Micah had taken their stance with God, and to remember always the words "This is my beloved [child], in whom I am well pleased." After a prayer we sang "I will Follow Thee My Saviour".

During the hymn Brother Jonas and Sister Micah walked out into the water with Brother Arnaldo, where he baptised each of them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. Then we all returned to the church.

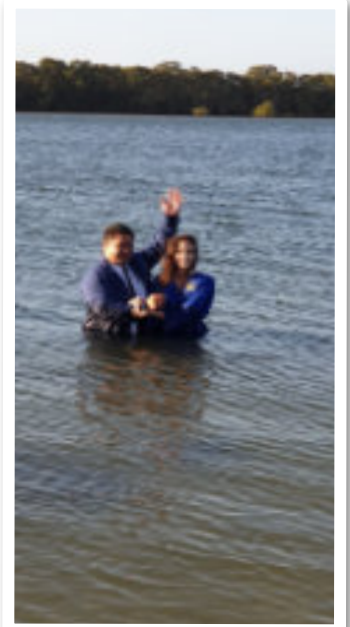
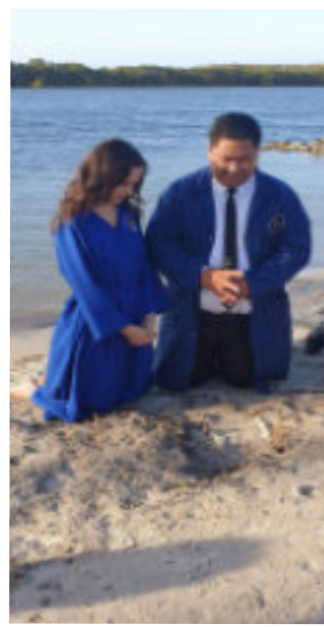
Brother Arnaldo shared some words regarding the commitment involved in being a Christian. He remarked that Micah and Jonas have started out on a new path. We all need to help them, little members of the church. He then called on them to come to the front, and extended the right hand of fellowship to them. He praised God for their decision to join the Church. God is also happy, and all the angels in heaven are happy.

Brother Arnaldo said we have a duty to help 'these little children'. He then presented them with flowers and a gift, asking us to pray for Jonas' visa, that it would be speedily granted. [Note: Jonas' visa has now been granted, and he can from this time apply for work in New Zealand, praise God's wonderful name!]

Reported by Sr Kathy Thirkettle







Ashley Sas' Baptism

27 April 2019

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33.

We live in a time where so often the degree of success is measured by what we have obtained in life and how that compares with those around us. Whether it is the house we live in, the job we have, the payback we get, the car we drive or the brand we wear. So much of our time and effort is given to trying to achieve these goals. Yet God in His infinite love has provided us the simple, yet 100% guaranteed method of reaching the highest success in life – "seek ye first the kingdom of God."

There is great joy in heaven when a person, especially a youth, 'signs on' to God's success plan. On Sabbath the 27th of April our church family at Pimpama (Gold Coast), had the wonderful opportunity of sharing this joyous experience with Heaven as we came together to witness Ashley Sas making a public commitment to follow God's master plan in her life.

For the Pimpama Church Family it was a very special day to see one of our own youth (lovingly adopted from her NSW family) make this stand for Christ, and it was wonderful to share this day with the largest attendance our church has ever had as we enjoyed the company of visitors from all over Queensland and also many of Ashley's family from south of the border. The Lord blessed us with perfect weather, and we praise Him for the experience we all had on the day.

To Ashley we wish you all God's blessings as you follow in His plan for success in your life, and remember that we are all here to encourage and support you as one big family of God. Further, we pray that your commitment to Christ not only enriches your life but that your experience may be an encouragement and a witness to the many youth and friends you share your life with.

~ Pimpama Church Family







Ignite Your Faith

Victoria Camp

19 April -22 April 2019

Reported By Miguel Mendoza

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.” Matthew 5:14

We had an amazing camp meeting. It was a blessing to see our brethren from different parts of Australia come along and fellowship together with us. The theme of this year was “Ignite your Faith.” We want our faith to be ignited, we want to spread the gospel. We want to be the light that this world needs to see.

Wonderful activities and topics were shared at this camp. On Friday the Sabbath opening was followed by a delicious dinner; right after that, we had a nice presentation by Br. Jared Chapman which was entitled: “Finding the Right Match.”

On Sabbath morning, the worship was presented by Br. Randy Acquiatan with the title: “Don’t Play with Fire.” After a nutritious breakfast, it was on to Sabbath School, where young and old enjoyed their respective programs.

For the divine service, Br. Nathan Tyler shared with us a subject entitled “Ignite your Faith,” which made us think about our need of Jesus as our Saviour, to have our faith ignited. Then we were served with a nice and delicious lunch. We all felt spoiled by our dear cooks Sr. Esther Boje and Sr. Ecaterina Szabo and their helpers, who did a fantastic job in the kitchen throughout the entire camp meeting.

In the afternoon program, Sister Amy Duna publicly surrendered her life to the Lord through baptism. It was an inspiration to those who witnessed it. Please keep her in your prayers as she grows in her spiritual experience with our Lord Jesus. The profession of faith was conducted by Br. Randy Acquiatan; the baptism was performed by Br. Miguel Mendoza; then she was fellowshipped into the church by Br. Nathan Tyler. We are thankful to the Lord for Amy’s decision, and we pray that the Lord may bless her always.

After the baptism, right up to the close of Sabbath, the young people’s meeting was run by Sr. Irina Duna and Bro. Nathan Boje. It was nice to see many items from our young ones, children and adults.

At our Sunday morning worship, Br. Nathan Boje led us through the subject “Hide Under a Bushel... No!” which was food for thought. During the morning, three presentations were run at the same time with workshops and feedback. All topics involved activities for the participants, and they were very engaging, with lots of fun. The topics were: “Smoke Without Fire,” presented by Sr. Susanna Mandic; “Keep Your Fire Burning,” presented by Sr. Diana Szabo, and “Transformed by Fire,” presented by Sr. Brigita Szabo. We’d like to thank these three sisters for their participation and creativity while running their presentations.

The afternoon activities involved everyone, especially the young people and children, who enjoyed canoeing, harness activities, trampoline, and more. It was a very nice afternoon, with pleasant weather.

Right after our dinner we had a presentation by Br. Miguel Mendoza, with the topic “Go Light Your World,” and then our close of camp with final words from the Conference President, Br. Randy Acquiatan, and the AUC representative, Br. Nathan Tyler. Some of our participants left after the close of camp, but we still had a little bit more of extra program on the next day.

On Monday morning, we had a presentation by Br. Caleb Wiseman, who shared the message “The Light of the World.” It was very nice to see Caleb sharing his first sermon ever with us. So Caleb if you are reading this article, thank you very much, and God bless you. After that, we had our last breakfast with those who remained, and then we had to clean up the site and check out.

Finally, all we can say is that this camp meeting was a blessing. We hope that everyone who attended this camp may have had their faith ignited. We give thanks to God for His blessing during the camp, thanks to all who were actively involved in their different responsibilities for the running of the camp and thanks to the ones that made the effort to come along and join us. So, if you couldn’t make it this time, we encourage you to get ready next time, God willing, because we’d love to see you here in Victoria. May the Lord bless us all!

“The convocations of the church, as in camp meetings, the assemblies of the home church, and all occasions where there is personal labor for souls, are God’s appointed opportunities for giving the early and the latter rain.” *Last Day Events*, p. 187.

Testimonial: Lucy Wiseman

It was exciting to arrive at another Melbourne camp, which was entitled ‘Ignite Your Faith’. The meetings and workshops were well prepared and interesting. We learned many things about fire. Fire can easily spread if it has something to keep it going, otherwise it will die out, just as the gospel can spread or die out. It is up to us to keep it going. On Sabbath afternoon Sr. Amy Duna was baptised into the faith by Br. Miguel Mendoza, which was an inspiration to those who witnessed it. After this we had a delightful Young People’s meeting, sharing items. The cooks worked hard in the kitchen to make sure there was amazing, delicious food at every meal. Everyone enjoyed the activities on Sunday afternoon which included high ropes, flying fox and canoeing. Looking forward to next camp, where I hope to see you all.





Western Australia Youth Road Trip

Karijini National Park

Early on a Friday morning, an excited group of young people gathered, ready to embark on a 10-day epic road trip covering approximately 2740km. We were heading to Karijini National Park for a week-long camping trip, and everyone was enthusiastic despite the early start to the day. Five cars and twenty excited adventurers set off for the long journey into Western Australia's Pilbara region.

Come along via our picture diary below, describing our trip and the adventures along the way!



Friday 19th April 2019 - Perth to Doolgunna Homestead (855km)

Four cars driving in convoy. The Lausevic family had left earlier and were in front of us. It was lots of fun passing Oversize loads on the way.



Sabbath 20th April 2019 – Doolgunna Homestead

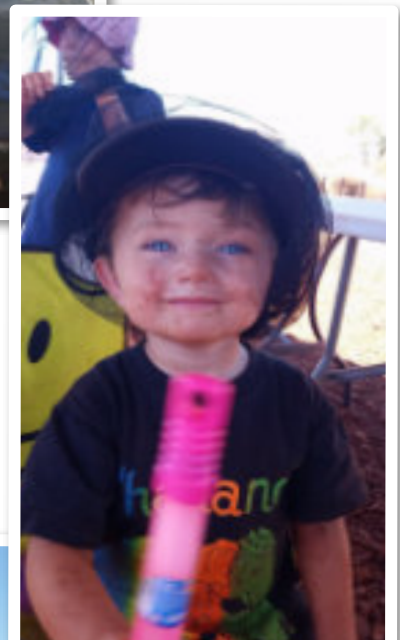
We spent the Sabbath together relaxing at the homestead and there had our first experience with the outback flies. While the children enjoyed Sabbath School in the red dirt, the youth enjoyed an extended study/discussion. After struggling to not eat flies with our food, some took part in a conversational activity about faith and relationships, others went for a walk, and we all finally joined in a group activity of Bible Taboo.





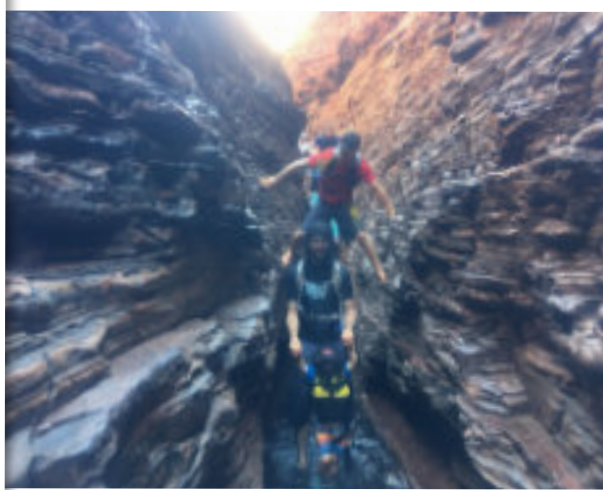
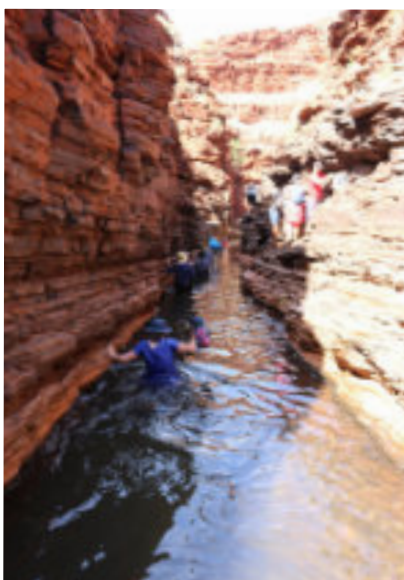
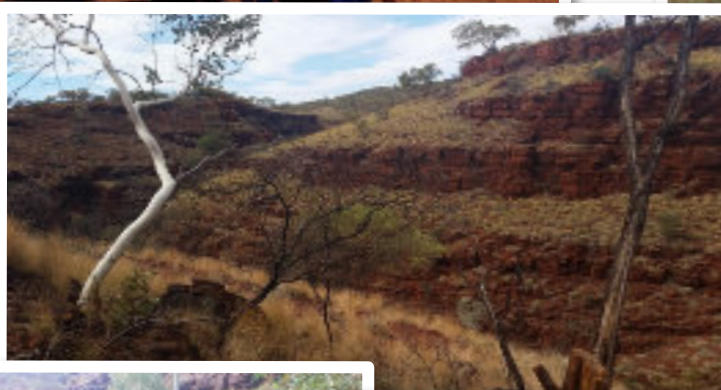
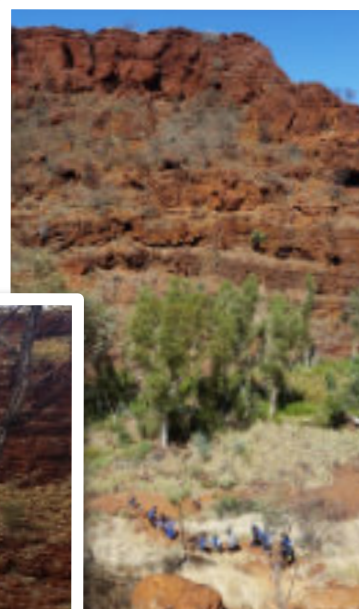
Sunday 21st April – Doolgunna Homestead to Karijini National Park (499km)

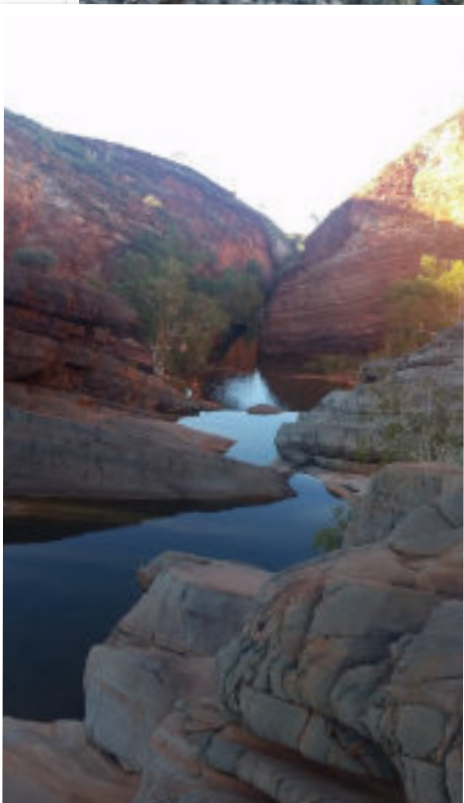
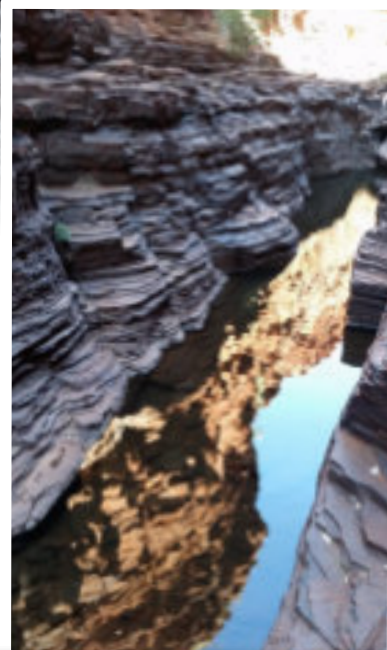
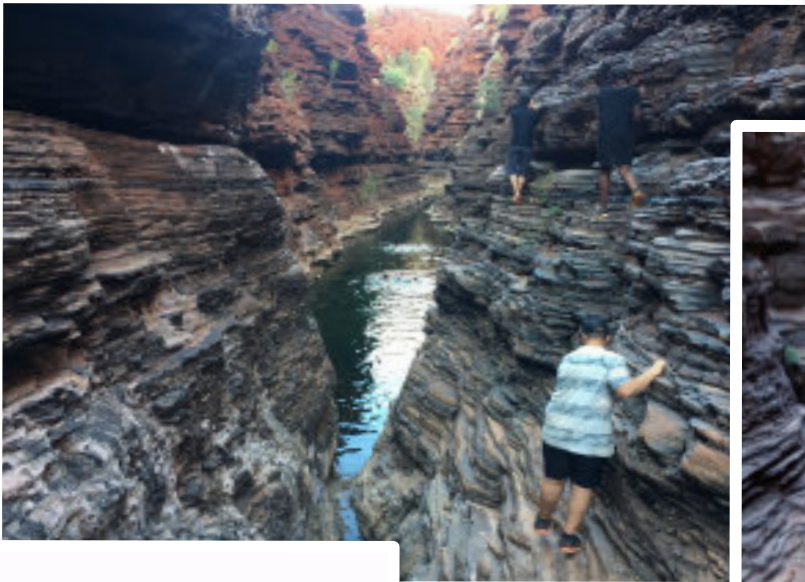
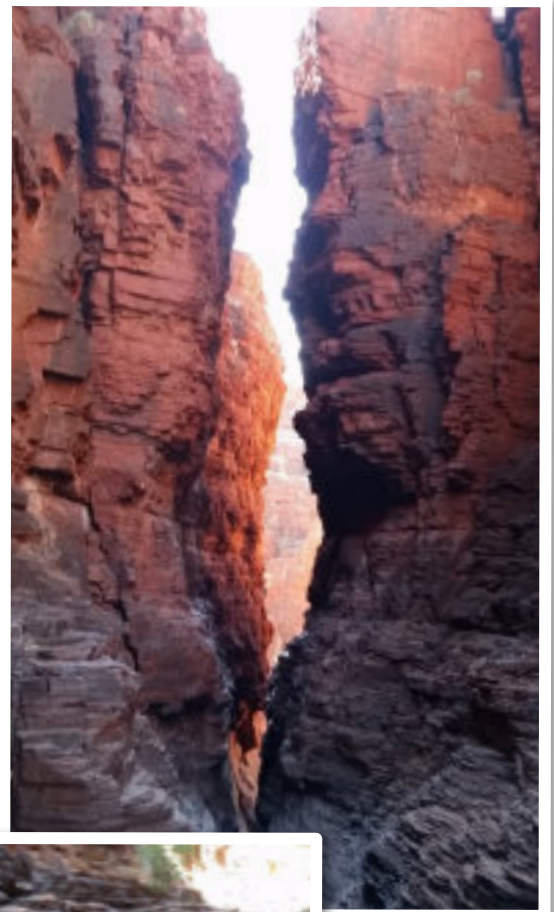
We all rose in the early morning while still dark to pack up our camps and hit the road for another day of driving. On the way to Karijini we stopped at Newman for a last chance to stock up on food for the week and enjoyed looking at a huge haul truck that was used in the Mines. We finally arrived at Dales Campground in Karijini National Park and set up camp once again. Those that were setting up tents had fun trying to hammer the pegs into the hard ground. Although the campground had drop toilets, we were thankful that the youth department had purchased a 12volt camping shower, which was available for those of us who wished to wash off the red dirt.



Monday 22nd to Wednesday 24th April – Exploring the Gorges

The next couple of days were spent exploring the many gorges in Karijini National Park. We all enjoyed km's of walks, wading through the freezing water in the gorges to get to the other end, climbing the rocks, swatting at flies, but mostly marvelling at the beauty of God's creation and wondering how something that possibly came about as a product of the flood could still be so beautiful. The days were dry and hot, the nights freezing cold. But most of us slept good after lots of walking each day. We all enjoyed God's gifts – fresh air, water, sunshine and exercise.





Thursday 25th April 2019 – Climbing Mount Bruce

At 1234 meters high, Mt Bruce (Punurrunha) is the second highest mountain in Western Australia. At 3:30 in the freezing hours of the morning, 9 energetic people drove quietly to the base of the mountain where they parked the cars and set off by torchlight to reach the summit of the mount by sunrise, while those that remained at camp had a leisurely morning and waited for them to return. In the afternoon we all went to our favourite gorge for a dip in the cool water.



Friday 26th to Sunday 28th April - The return trip home

Very early Friday morning, five youth set off for home while it was still dark. They drove straight through to Perth and arrived safely. The rest of us waited for daybreak, packed up camp and then left. We decided to spend the weekend at a place called Karalundi Caravan and Camping Park. The Karalundi community is run by Adventists and centres around a boarding school which caters for up to 50 indigenous students from years 7 to 10. The school is currently closed, and in the process of re-registration, but still welcomes travellers to stay. We were very excited to be able to camp on a bit of grass, as we had only seen red dirt for the past week. It was also lovely to be able to have a nice hot shower inside the toilet block. The children enjoyed feeding the little lambs that the caretaker was hand-rearing. We enjoyed the Sabbath together (although we missed our 5 friends who were already back in Perth), and on Sunday morning we all packed up for the last time and continued separately on our homeward journey.



Since we were all together for eighteen morning and evening worships, each person was assigned one worship. They were not given a topic, but were asked to present whatever God was leading them to share. It was very encouraging to see all the youth take up the challenge. The worships were short, but very meaningful and heart touching. It was lovely to take part in the discussions and also encouraging to see everyone willing to help each other. Sometimes this was giving a hand to help in dangerous sections while walking, carry the first aid kit, fetching and heating up water, helping with the kids in the group, helping to set up camp, etc.

We thank God that there were no injuries, and although we had been warned about snake season, not one of us had an encounter with a snake, and we were glad that the first aid kit came back untouched! The stars were incredible; sunrise and sunsets – glorious; the gorges – spectacular, and sitting around with the youth playing games and chatting every night – fun!!! It was enjoyed by all, and although no one managed to work out how to get rid of the red dirt from our clothing, and some spent hours trying to get it out of their cars, we all enjoyed the fellowship and adventure and look forward to another camping trip.

~ Jade Kneebone

Queensland Outreach - Kid's Picnic

On the 15th of April, 2019 the Clayfield church, along with helpers from Pimpama church, hosted a Kids' Picnic for the Logan area in Qld.

The event was aimed at reaching the children in the low socioeconomic regions which are known for crime, drugs, gang violence, etc.

Members from Clayfield and Pimpama door knocked for a total of 6 hours over 2 days, only 2 days before the event and got a large amount of interest. We initially assumed that around 30 people would come from the first day we went door knocking. Then we went door knocking again on the Sabbath afternoon, and we had a much larger interest, so much so that we concluded around 100 people could be showing up.

Prior to that we had planned that everyone from church could just bring along a tray of sandwiches and sausage rolls, and a few people were going to bring drinks and sweets. After we realised we were going to have more people than we planned for, a good sort of panic set in.

With an amazing group of 25 helpers we managed to pull off 350 cupcakes, 8 extra-large cakes, multiple trays of sandwiches and sausage rolls, fruit, dips, chips, sushi, and more. We also bought a lot more drinks and borrowed a large popcorn machine.

Thanks to Heidi and Emmett, who were willing to share their pets with the public, we had 10 guinea pigs, 6 chooks and a rooster which served as our mini petting zoo. This was an incredible favourite for the kids who came.

We were blessed with around 46 kids, plus their parents, and all of us from church. It ended up being around the 100-person mark.

We also had amazing weather to start off with, and all of us kids were able to run and play games out on the oval behind the community hall. The kids were enjoying it so much, and having around 30 kids on the oval, who had never met each other before, playing so well together, was truly an amazing sight to behold. We all felt like family, although we had never met before.

Many of the people who came walked long distances or came by taxi, and when 3pm came nobody seemed to want to go

home. We had a wide variety of cultures including indigenous Australians, Middle Eastern, Asian, Maori, etc.

We also had free books which they were welcome to take. These books were missionary stories written for children/youth. Many of these books went, and many of the people wanted to keep in touch and even know more about our church.

Since the event, we have made a message group and asked them if they would like to receive regular updates from us. We have only received positive results so far.

We are planning to continue small but regular events to keep the interest up and demonstrate the love of Jesus in practical ways.

None of us thought that it would be such a huge success, but God definitely multiplied the visitors, and He also multiplied the "loaves and fishes" so that we actually had leftovers.

Praise God!





GoodTidings News, a newsletter of the
Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement,
Australasian Union Conference
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