



SA NEWS

Newsletter of the Presbytery of South Australia Issue 52 December 2021

One Glorious Whole

Horatius Bonar

All that Christ did and suffered, from the manger to the tomb, forms one glorious whole, no part of which shall ever become needless or obsolete; no part of which one can ever leave without forsaking the whole.

I am always at the manger, and yet I know that mere incarnation cannot save; always at Gethsemane, and yet I believe that its agony was not the finished work; always at the cross, with my face toward it, and my eye on the crucified One, and yet I am persuaded that the sacrifice there was completed once for all; always looking into the grave, though I rejoice that it is empty, and that 'He is not here, but is risen'; always resting (with the angel) on the stone that was rolled away, and handling the grave-clothes, and realizing a risen Christ, nay, an ascended and interceding Lord, yet on no pretext whatever leaving any part of my Lord's life or death behind me, but unceasingly keeping up my connection with Him, as born, living, dying, buried, and rising again, and drawing out from each part some new blessing every day and hour.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889) was a minister of the Free Church of Scotland and the writer of hymns such as Glory be to God the Father
<http://firstimportance.org/one-glorious-whole>

Condolence Message

The Presbyterian Churches of South Australia all join together to pass on our sincere sympathy and condolences to Rev Gary and Margaret Ware and their family on the sad passing of their elder son, brother and uncle, Robert. We all have you in our prayers at this time.

Mount Gambier

In September 161 filled shoeboxes were sent on the start of their journey to children in other countries. Considering the circumstances again this year, this was a great effort. The photo on the right is of some of the Christmas Boxes stacked up in the church with Gary praying over them.

Our Growth Groups continued meeting in Term 4 and have been studying 2 Corinthians 8-15.

In November we said goodbye to a loved member of our congregation, Robert Ware, Rev Gary and Margaret Ware's elder son. He is now home with Jesus.



New life in Mount Magnet

There has been wonderful traction over the past twelve months in Mt Magnet as Alvin and Narelle continue to minister to the local community.

The church is well attended, averaging 20-30 local people on a weekly basis, sometimes with visitors from other areas. The Sunday school ministry has also grown since it was incorporated into the adult service, and the new curriculum is helping to ensure the kids are growing in their knowledge of the Lord Jesus. A local Indigenous lady recently commented "I've never seen so many people at church, and I've been here all my life!" For a small town of around 380 people, this is extremely encouraging. Earlier in May, the church had the privilege of celebrating new life as they witnessed two baptisms: a baby girl of two church attendees and a newly born again local woman who has faithfully been attending Mt Magnet church and Bible study this past year. It was a joyful and wonderful celebration of God's gracious covenant.

Alvin's work continues to revolve around evangelism and discipleship. Recently, he and Cecilia, the only active Christian Badimaya in town, launched a backyard Sunday service for their Indigenous friends. The most recent session was attended by seven indigenous people. Towards the end of the service, Jacinta, another Badimaya, decided to commit her life to Christ. In her words "I want to

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Naracoorte

Greetings in the name of the LORD.

Unfortunately Rev Rudi Schwartz was unable to come from NSW in September and October, due to the border closure, so the elders have been kept busy preparing services and our dear Margaret has been leading the hymn singing each week; she does a wonderful job as the sound of singing with masks is not the best.

We have been praying constantly for Rev Gaius Goh who has had 2 surgeries and is now recuperating at a rehabilitation hospital in Sydney. We understand he will have to take things quietly for sometime, so please pray for him. Also one of our dear friends who has come over from Victoria (Gordon Stanley) has had medical problems and surgery in recent months and we have kept him in our prayers as well. Hopefully he will be able to visit again in the future.

We have 2 members who will have replacement surgery in December and 2 more who will have surgery in 2022. Otherwise the members of the congregation are well and continuing on in their walk with Jesus.

KYB studies are drawing to a close for 2021, but we are looking forward to studying Mark, beginning in late January.

The ladies Fellowship held its lunch to raise money for the Naracoorte Lucindale Community Care Network in September and raised \$255. A lovely lunch (soup, sandwiches and slices) and fellowship was enjoyed by all present.

The PWA and Ladies Fellowship ladies invited the ladies of the congregation to join them for lunch at the Caves Cafe on 25th November. Another good meal and fellowship was enjoyed.

"....they broke bread and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people".

Wishing everyone God's peace and blessings for Christmas and the New Year.

Pat Leitch



Karnkendi Campsite

Our deepest thanks to all who ask about and pray for Karnkendi and the main thing is that we can weather the storm to continue to serve the Lord in all the ways that are possible at the facility.

If you can't remember where camps were up to, that is good, as everything fell over with our future bookings in the short term and pre-Christmas camps were cancelled with all the uncertainty connected with restrictions in Victoria.

We have finally got the long awaited 5000 gallon camp tank on a substantial base and are now just waiting for a break in the weather as the Industrial water softener and even the concrete pad have been retrieved from the Church site for all of this to be connected up.



Rainwater tank base

The big cypress trees on the west side of the Nelson Church have been removed (with the bulldozer finding water supply pipe only the once during the job!) so it looks a little like “ground zero” but has tidied the blocks up nicely and created a blessed amount of road frontage with a lovely view out over the town and river.



Nelson Church after tree removal

Apart from new paint in the main dining hall, a new island bench with much needed enclosed under-storage and the trickle of repair jobs, things have been very quiet at the camp.

As Victorians, the allowed reasons to travel 70 km into SA do not include meetings so with our last gathering being the 13th May we are keen to all catch up once restrictions ease for SA/ Vic in late November.

The Karnkendi committee consists of Rev Gary Ware (MGPC), John and Carolyn Lambert (Penola), Malcolm McLean (Naracoorte), Heather and

myself (Nelson) along with our custodians at PCQ who are always on hand to assist.

Future bookings are starting to creep in as we have the first run of family camps starting on 27th – 30th December with a Thai family group from Melbourne and

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then a quick turnaround (that will be a shock for us!) with a largish family group from Warrnambool district from the 30th December to 2nd January. Then there is a bit of a break as normal with school holidays and just booked is Tenison Woods Catholic College from Mount Gambier with their Senior Music Camp planned for the 23rd-25th of March which we are thrilled with, as they are the first SA based group to call in nearly two years.

We then have our regular Thai family fellowship group from Melbourne that are due for Easter.

As the local accommodation books out we are starting to get very small family groups looking for a place to stay in Nelson so we are praying we can work our way through these at this time to keep numbers up to utilise the camp as best we can – it will be interesting, if nothing else, as we start to work our way through the rules with vaccinated and unvaccinated folk and the effect this has on numbers and density.

Our new website is now getting some great interest and we are receiving a gentle flow of enquires. We are looking into re-engaging into Facebook as another free medium to keep our presence “out there” as a large outdoors walking tour company has made contact from Adelaide to use the camp in April next year, we are excited this will develop into another market that has been relatively untouched.

Things are going well at the Caretakers cottage with the young lady, renting since early May, now securing a more permanent and senior position in Parks Fire control at Dartmoor and as arranged the cottage yard has had a bit of a makeover, which will see a lot of replanting etc and the internal rooms continue to be painted out into more neutral colours.

Once again Heather and I thank you all for your thoughts and prayers for what has been a difficult time for us all and trust your charges have been able to work through all the associated issues in an effort to stay connected. We are hoping that the worst has passed and we can also start to see groups return to Karnkendi, so if you have the urge to come to lovely Nelson with a group please call Heather on 0448 871 225 to book.

God Bless,

Harvey & Heather McBain
Caretakers
Karnkendi



APWM CHRISTMAS CATALOGUE 2021

This Christmas why not give gifts to your family and friends and at the same time help someone who doesn't have the basics that we take for granted? The items below can provide for the needs of Christians and others in our Overseas Partner Churches.



EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE (ETHIOPIA) A gift of \$10 will assist the Presbyterian Church of Ethiopia in the education of children from disadvantaged communities.

TRAINING CONFERENCE EXPENSES (TIMOR LESTE) A gift of \$20 will assist in sending a team from Australia to run a training conference for pastors and other leaders in Timor Leste.

TRAINING for Vijai Tagore (INDIA) A gift of \$25 will assist in training Vijai Tagore, a theological lecturer from India, as he studies for his PhD at Christ College from 2019 onwards.

APWM ABORIGINAL MINISTRY (AUSTRALIA) A gift of \$30 will assist in supporting Rick and Kayleen Manton in training and supporting Aboriginal ministry workers in Australia.

PRISON MINISTRY (MALAWI) A gift of \$30 will purchase much-needed blankets and other living essentials for prisoners in Malawi who live in very difficult conditions.

BIBLE TRANSLATION (TIMOR LESTE) A gift of \$40 will assist in the ongoing translation of the Bible into Tetun, the national language of Timor Leste.

PASTOR'S MEDICAL EXPENSES (INDIA) A gift of \$50 will assist in helping pastors in India pay for medical expenses.

HOW IT WORKS

Choose the item(s) on our list that you would like to purchase for your friends/family. Send us your order, including payment. Please note that these gifts are **NOT tax deductible**.

We will send you the cards you have ordered. You are then free to give these cards to your friends/family for Christmas. The cards state which gift(s) you have purchased, on their behalf, for someone in one of our Partner Churches or for APWM Aboriginal ministry. There is no monetary value printed on the card.

APWM then sends the money to our overseas partners to purchase items locally, or uses it for APWM ministry as specified in Australia.

FORM/PAYMENTS ORDER

Complete the order form and send it with your payment (cheque or money order made out to 'APWM'). Please DO NOT send cash.

Payment can also be made via Direct Deposit (details below)

(www.apwm.org.au/supporting/finance).

Bank: Westpac

Account Name: Australian Presbyterian World Mission

BSB: 032 260 Account #: 151207

For Direct Deposits, please write your name in the description box and send an email informing us of your deposit (finance@apwm.org.au).

All order forms should be mailed to:

APWM Christmas Catalogue

1 Clarence Street
Burwood NSW 2134

APWM CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE 2021 ORDER FORM

Item	Qty	Cost
Educational Assistance (ETHIOPIA) \$10		
Training Conference Expenses (Timor Leste) \$20		
Training for Vijai Tagore (INDIA) \$25		
Aboriginal Ministry (Rick & Kayleen Manton) \$30		
Prison Ministry (Malawi) \$30		
Bible Translation (Timor Leste) \$40		
Medical Expenses (India) \$50		
Total		

- ☐
I enclose a cheque / money order for \$_____ or
- ☐
I have made a Direct Deposit of \$ _____
- ☐
Please tick here if you do not wish to receive cards and simply want to make a donation for these items

Please note that if any item is over-subscribed then the money will be allocated to a similar need.

Name.....

Address

SuburbPostcode

Phone Email

Danny & Jen Cooke



Dan & Jen Cooke and family at their farewell in Vanuatu

Danny and Jen, together with their four children have just concluded two and a half years of ministry in the village of Sulphur Bay, on the island of Tanna, in Vanuatu.

We are very grateful for Danny and Jen's willingness to serve and to the Orange Presbyterian Church which was willing to release them for service. Please pray that God would keep on raising up people for such service.

Rob & El Falls



Rob & El Falls and family on their first day at Talua

After many COVID-related delays Rob & El Falls are now serving at the Talua Theological Training Institute in Vanuatu. We praise God for their willingness to serve with our oldest Partner Church and for the partnership of the many who made this possible. Please pray for them as they commence what we pray will be many years of fruitful service.

Pray for More



Pastor Kalsakau Urtalo

Many in Australia will not know this man. He is Pastor Kalsakau Urtalo from the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu. He recently went to be with Christ.

He was once the Principal of Talua and Assembly Clerk. He gave wise counsel and leadership to many in the

Church and stood firm for the gospel. Ian and Jenni Smith served under him during their time at Talua. Ian writes:

"On rare occasions in life, one comes across someone who is a mentor, a leader and a brother - to me Kalsakau was all three, as well as a dear friend. The impact of his ministry at Talua is felt in every church on every island of Vanuatu every week. He embodied a commitment to the gospel of grace, servant-hearted leadership and a desire to see the next generation of Christian leaders well prepared to minister the truths of the Scriptures in ways that are culturally appropriate. I have learnt so much from him. He will certainly not be forgotten."

Praise God for men and women such as Pastor Kalsakau. Please join us in praying that God would raise up more like him. Pray the Lord of the harvest.

Contact

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PresAID: Presbyterians Assisting in Development 2021 Christmas Appeal

PresAID's Christmas Appeal is an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of many brothers and sisters in our overseas partner churches. This year we can provide **fresh water** for two villages: one in **India** and the other in **Ethiopia**, **Bible teaching material** in **Timor Leste** and a **new classroom** for **Orbus, Malawi**.

Any funds received beyond what's needed for these projects will become the seed of an overseas disaster relief fund to be used in emergency circumstances.

Congregations are encouraged to give generously to this appeal.





Gap Year applications now open

PIM's Gap Year programme offers an exciting way to spend a year learning new skills, meeting interesting people and thinking about how you might serve the Lord in the future.

Noah, our first ever Gappie, has chalked up a range of fantastic experiences. Now in the second half of his gap year, he has gained valuable experience and new skills working with sheep, cattle and crops. He's also learnt how to operate a range of machinery. He is actively involved in the life of the Temora Presbyterian Church and is teaching two Scripture classes in local primary schools.

Noah recently returned from a six-week posting to a property at Dirranbandi in Qld. While there he met new people and enjoyed yet another diverse experience of life in the outback on a cattle station. He is now back at New Dunesk hard at work helping us get the property ready for 2022.

We are now open for 2022 Gap Year applications. Lord willing, we aim to have two Gappies spend the year with us, investing in their own futures and looking for ways they can serve the Lord. The programme is open to 18-20 year olds.

For more details, visit pim.org.au/gap-year. To register your interest, email gapyear@pim.org.au. You may even like to make plans to visit New Dunesk yourself!

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put my faith in Jesus. I know He is my Lord and my Saviour, and I want to turn my life around for Him." Jacinta and her partner have been meeting with Alvin for Bible study and counselling. Praise the Lord for displaying His love and mercy to this precious couple. Alvin has requested prayer for them that they will "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Pet 3:18).

God's faithfulness has been evident in Mount Magnet, from his general provision to saving grace. To see his work in transforming not only the landscape with rain but also the lives of his people for eternity is nothing short of miraculous. Please pray for the gospel ministry in Mount Magnet, that they may continue to serve the Lord with joy and perseverance. He is good and worthy to be praised.

This article includes extracts from Alvin and Narelle's regular newsletters on the work at Mt Magnet. If you would like to become a subscriber to this newsletter, or a financial contributor to Alvin and Narelle's work, please email Andrew at ceo@pim.org.au.

PRAYER POINTS

- Praise God that the Word became flesh; pray that this message will come home to many during the preaching of the word in December.
- Pray for the 2021 PresAID Christmas Appeal that people will give generously for the various causes this year.
- Pray for Rev Gary & Margaret Ware and their family at this time.
- Intercede for the Federal Government; Prime Minister Scott Morrison; that he will lead with integrity, stand firm in his belief and hold fast to his faith.
- Pray for the Leader of the Opposition Anthony Albanese, that he will be guided by Christian principles and come to know Jesus as his Lord and Saviour.
- Pray for the towns and cities of South Australia, for the people in them who do not know Christ, including unsaved family members, friends and work colleagues.
- Pray for the Adelaide Church; Davo Gunning, Ben Harvey, Peter Lim; congregations and elders.
- Pray for a Godly vision for your parish for 2022.
- Intercede for the Defence and Police forces.
- Pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus.
- Pray for the Mount Gambier Church; Rev Gary & Margaret Ware; elders and congregation.
- Pray for people living in remote and rural parts of South Australia with little access to the Gospel. Pray for PIM and the churches in SA to find effective ways to make disciples amongst these people.
- Pray for the Presbytery of South Australia, Rev Davo Gunning Moderator, Rev Gary Ware Clerk.
- Pray for hearts to be opened as the Lord Jesus Christ is proclaimed by word and deed by PIM workers.
- Pray for people not to be fooled by the false advertising of the spirit of Christmas and that they will come to know the Saviour who was born to die for them.
- Pray for safety and wisdom for all going on holidays.
- Give thanks for the rain that has fallen over various parts of our nation.
- Praise God that even while we rest He is at work throughout the world as He sends out His people, so that the whole earth might hear about Christ.
- Pray that God might use ordinary people such as yourself to reach family, friends and neighbours for Christ.

Editor's Note

Thank you to all who have contributed items for this issue of SA News, they are all very much appreciated. Contributions for the March 2022 issue are to be in my hands **no later** than **5.00pm Monday 21st February 2022**.

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I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous and blessed Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

SA News is a publication of the Presbytery of South Australia.