



SA NEWS

Newsletter of the Presbytery of South Australia

Issue 50 June 2021

The Certainty of Judgment

"The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9).

We have seen that there are two sides to God's judgment in Scripture. On the one hand, when the Lord judges His creation, impenitent sinners receive their just deserts for violating our Creator's holiness — the fury of His wrath. At the same time, those who believe His promises in Christ Jesus receive the declaration of divine favor, which leads to an incomparable inheritance (Gen. 15; Rom. 4). The prospect of God's judgment is a joy for believers, for we know our trust in Him will be vindicated before all creation, a creation that will be renewed as the perfect, eternal dwelling place for the redeemed (Ps. 96:10–13; Rev. 21).

This is a wonderful hope indeed, but it is a hope that is as yet unrealized. We know that we have been justified through faith alone in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21) and are guaranteed a place in this new creation, but we are still waiting for the judgment of God to be manifested in its fullness and the "sons of God" to be revealed to the whole world (Rom. 8:19). Waiting for this day, however, can be difficult, and it can be easy to forget that it is coming in the Lord's appointed timing.

When the first-century church was tempted to believe that the day of judgment would not come, the apostle Peter wrote a letter telling these Christians not to mistake what seemed to be God's delay as a sign that judgment would never arrive. Reminding believers that the Lord experiences time in a manner far different than His creatures do, Peter's admonition not to forget the patience of God in bringing about the consummation of all things remains a vitally important word to us two thousand years after his epistle was first read (2 Peter 3:8–9).

Final judgment is surely coming, and nothing can stand in the way of the Father making all things new. But until that final day comes, the Lord is patiently enduring the presence of sin, waiting for those whom He has chosen from the foundation of the world to reveal themselves through faith in Christ. He will one day expose the works that are done on the earth to make way for a new creation (v. 10), but at the present He patiently waits for the elect to come to faith. This patience, however, will not last forever, and so sinners who wait to repent may find, to their eternal damnation, that their time has run out.

It is important that we not manipulate people's emotions in our churches or when we are sharing the gospel out in the world. Nevertheless, this does not mean that we should not have an urgency in our preaching. The end could come at any time, and those sinners who do not take advantage of the opportunity to repent today could very well never have another chance to turn to Christ.

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/certainty-judgment/>

Adelaide Presbyterian Church

Mount Barker Congregation

Greetings to all S.A. Presbyterians and others from St Andrews congregation, Mt Barker.

Mr Peter Lim has been conducting our weekly 11am services except for a few weeks when Elder Mathew Green has kindly filled in.

Peter was the Moderator of our Annual General Meeting held after our service of worship on 21 March. A booklet of the APC Reports and Financial Statements and other relevant business was made available to the 13 people in attendance.

In the service on the 28 February we were privileged to welcome a couple from the Mount Gambier congregation who were up this way on holiday together with Mrs Elaine Mathews, the wife of the late Rev. Dr. Reg Mathews.

The following Sunday, Miss Margaret Dow and two of her friends from Victor Harbor, attended our service.

Our organist, Mrs Yvonne Dawson has been tutoring two of the young White girls in playing the organ for a few of the hymns in the service.

Sunday School has recommenced for 2021 with Rene and Mark Truyens and the Green family in charge. On Palm Sunday these families along with the White children, re-enacted the Easter story with help from Yvonne Dawson.

All best wishes to all other congregations, hoping you steer clear of the winter ills.

Arthur Crompton

Seacliff Congregation

As we move through Autumn, the chilly weather has reduced our attendances at services. Those that have attended are enjoying and learning from the first 10 chapters of Genesis. Similarly, our Growth group is also studying Genesis each week with questions from the previous Sunday's sermon. Although we are all familiar with the first few chapters, the questions had us grappling for answers.

Seacliff has a WhatsApp forum dedicated to issues needing prayer and praise for things that have happened during the past few days and weeks. It also keeps us in contact with our overseas brothers and sisters who were members of our congregation when studying in Adelaide. Our congregation finds the WhatsApp social media platform a wonderful way of keeping in contact with each other as time before and after church can be limited. This way we are kept up to date and have specific fuel for our prayer life. We thoroughly recommend it to other congregations.

Here are some excerpts from the last few weeks:

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

a) **"Latest from Matt:**

Prayer and praise points for this week:

- The English centre in xxxx hope to open for classes by the end of May. Pray for a smooth transition.

- Matt has completed his 2 weeks of quarantine. Pray for a good and blessed time with his family and friends and as he meets with various supporting groups in our country.

- carpentry classes are still planned but await the delivery of the carpentry tools.

- Officials have contacted the 2 nurses to be involved in assisting the setting up of a covid response centre and to do some training. Pray for wisdom in how they will go about it.

- The new building's underground tank has been connected to the town's water supply!

- give thanks that the badly burnt finger of one of the workers has healed well.

b) Please pray for Praveena who continues to feel unwell. She has been on antibiotics but as yet there is no relief for her sinuses. She is tired, emotionally drained and somewhat overwhelmed. She needs her family to rally around in love and prayer.

c) *"Hi everyone.*

Apologies for my no show at church today. I overslept as a result of exhaustion from my working week. My work has been extra heavy and busy recently and I have been feeling exhausted after each shift. Hope everyone is keeping well. I will keep praying for everyone and for healing for Naomi, Praveena and Richard. Thanks for Matthew's prayer points Heather. I will pray for Matthew too. Hope to see you all next week. God bless."

d) Peter Lim, our pastor, has been in contact with several international students and asks us, as a congregation, to join him in praying for them. These are the students.

-xx (from China, studied at the uni, seeking Christianity with lots of questions, attending meetings and Sunday services)

-xx (from Korea, regularly attends church services

-xx and family (from Iran)

-xx and wife (from Nepal)

e) Peter is on leave at the moment, spending time meeting people from overseas.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

As I write this, we pray for our brethren in Queensland who have gone into receivership. As Adelaide has been helped to build up our congregations throughout the city, we feel for all who have helped in person and in our administration over the last three years.

The Adelaide Presbyterian church will be financially unaffected.

Please pray for the residents and staff of the Prescare homes.

May God be with you and strengthen you on your walk with the Lord.

Ian Gossip

Presbyterian Inland Mission

We are excited to announce the appointment of Paul and Janae Denness to the managers role at New Dunesk!

Paul and Janae, along with Abigail, Tim, Kynan and Charis, bring to the role solid skills in evangelism and discipling. They have in the past served cross-culturally as APWM Missionaries with MAF and most recently they have been serving with the Australian Navigators.



They will move up to New Dunesk at the end of June and will play a vital role in Inspiring, Equipping and Sending out God's people for ministry to the Inland. Paul's practical skills and Janae's hospitality will also help make New Dunesk a wonderful place to visit and enjoy - why not drop in and visit them sometime soon!

Country Elders, this is for you!

PIM have partnered with Langham Preaching to offer a preaching workshop aimed at elders and lay preachers in rural and remote places.

This practical and informative workshop is scheduled to be run at New Dunesk from 26-29 of August this year. Places are limited so don't delay in signing up yourself, or forwarding this on to a friend.

More information can be found at this link:

https://pim.org.au/.../PIM_CountryEldersPreachingWorkshop...

Moderator's Comments - Posted 16 April 2021

Our response to the world needs to embrace more than lament, but a deep malaise has descended upon contemporary Western society. There is a hardness of heart, but a softness in the head; a trivialisation of life, yet a lack of humour; and a coarsened culture but a distorted sensitivity concerning giving offence. Any example would do as an illustration, but the recent moral outrage at the sexual misbehaviour of parliamentary staffers in Canberra is clear enough.

The wrong paradigm was embraced long ago. There is no way that the chattering classes would admit that the basic problem was that God's commandments were being trampled upon. For decades, the received wisdom has been that sexual morality does not count as morality at all. Provided all was consensual – or near enough, given the flow of alcohol – anything was allowed. Sexual chastity just did not rank with more vital issues, such as not mixing up one's landfill bin with one's recycle bin on garbage night. Given this paradigm, the media could maintain their moral outrage at parliamentary staffers while continuing to excuse sleazy advertisements and shows like *Married at First Sight* and *Game of Thrones*.

With the wrong paradigm comes the wrong diagnosis. If the problem is sexism and misogyny, then it is clear that increased doses of equality are what is needed. Actually, Peta Credlin has made the accusation that the lewd acts in Canberra included many that were homosexual or solitary, which muddies the misogynist waters somewhat. In contrast, the Bible treats men and women as different, and teaches that the Fall has affected us in differing ways. When it comes to lust, both genders are capable of it, but Jesus directs His words especially at men: 'I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart' (Matt.5:28). When it comes to clothing, both genders need to take heed, but the apostle especially directs women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety (1 Tim.2:9).

If misogyny is the culprit, then the solution might be found in another commission of inquiry, another lengthy report, further recommendations, and finally gender quotas for parliamentarians. But if your paradigm is wrong, your diagnosis will be wrong, and your proposed solution will be wrong. Greg Sheridan, who voted in favour of same-sex marriage in 2017, is disturbed by what has taken place, and has had the temerity to suggest that 'Men could do much worse than look to Jesus.' It is not exactly John the Baptist in full cry, but an improvement on the fashionable mantra about gender quotas.

The world has created its own problems – it has taken morality out of sexual relationships; it sees uniformity as the answer to all ills; and it calls on the law to achieve these goals. The result is more of the same, and a blindness as to what is going wrong. People get their hopes up that progress is being made when actually the boat is just being rowed around in circles. It is God who declares what is wrong: it is the human heart, for it is corrupt (Matt.15:19). This is something we must try to curb, but the believer comes to acknowledge the truth

(Continued on page 10)

Karnkendi Campsite

With the blessing of a lovely mild summer and removed restrictions things at the “Camp” have been moving in the right direction once more.

As mentioned in our last report we were hoping that St Martin’s Year 11 Christian outreach camp from Mount Gambier would go ahead as the feeling of apprehension of getting groups particularly from SA felt like it would never happen. We are very happy to report that all went to plan and the leaders of the group were overwhelmed with the way that Karnkendi was so suited their needs but also with an abundance of room to spend quality time with the students attending.

Out of the blue Tenison Woods Catholic College in Mount Gambier called hoping to have their Senior Music Camp at Karnkendi. This was held from the 10th -12th of March but this, and the fact the outer buildings had sat dormant for so long, lead to considerable cleaning to get these cleaned to the standard required.

The stage area worked well with its new floor for the drum section and all other spaces had students practicing and performing. It was very humbling to be able to be a part of preparing and presenting the camp for such an event, even if on the day they arrived Powercor turned off the electricity. This saw the camp generator put into action for lighting and water pumps to keep everyone happy.

The long awaited Thai Family Fellowship group arrived from Melbourne after being booked for two years for Easter. They are regular users and have a level of care for Karnkendi that is not seen in most groups by the way they leave the camp so clean and tidy.

An added bonus at Easter was a small group of Canoers that had hoped for more to attend but the snap Brisbane lockdown stopped some travelling. They came on the Thursday prior and Easter Monday so the condition of the camp made this easier after the Thai group.

The Cottage at Karnkendi had been rented out and we were hoping for this to continue further into the year, however, with the fire season being mild and the tenants being on contract to Parks Victoria this saw the house vacated on the 10th of April. This had given us a much needed financial boost which we feel blessed to have whilst the Camp slowly gets return usage.

The also long awaited return of Beaconhills Christian College from Melbourne was very welcome as they were the first group to cancel out in mid March 2020 after HealthVic advice.

Scores of Year 9 students from the Pakenham campus embraced the new adventure of camping on the grounds then “roughing it” in the Lower Glenelg National



Park, Discovery Bay Coastal Park and on sections of the Great South West Walk as they hiked, canoed, mountain biked and swam their way through these locations. This was all made possible by the support of staff based at Karnkendi who provide food and firewood drops, relocation transport, medical aid and general support.

We were able to position the coach drivers at the Cottage on 3 occasions also, which was an added bonus.

We have recently fitted a large sink, water, makeshift bench chairs and a table to the stage which is working well as camp kitchen for the students.

As regional Victoria is being swept up with the snapping up of particularly coastal real estate this has seen those renting looking for housing. This situation has certainly worked in our favour and I am pleased to also report that after a little over a month the cottage is again rented out on a more permanent basis to a lovely local lady who also works for Parks Victoria This commenced on Friday the 7th of May but being such a proactive individual she had already started on the garden a few weeks ago and in the week prior to shifting in repainted the lounge room.

Having not ever had a home she could put her stamp on Bonnie is looking forward to tidying up the cottage grounds and continuing to paint to assist with the cost of renting.

Friday the 14th will see Beaconhills Christian College Berwick Campus roll into town with another of their year 9 Outdoors Explorer programmes which will run to the 2nd June. However, this event has now been extended to the year 10's so we are thrilled to confirm that these will run into July and August which is a time that the camp would always be vacant.

The 4th – 6th of June will hopefully see my Dads "Old Time music Weekend" back after a two year absence as all past attendants have booked out all the



(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

internal rooms at this time. The event has been held at Karnkendi for the last 15 years and with the open fire roaring, home cooked soups and a variety of platter food the Main hall takes on yet another role, to bring people together for the love of Old time music played on the accordion, banjo, fiddle, piano and range of other instruments.

Once again the Lord's grace has been showered upon us as the Penola ladies wound up their association recently and Karnkendi was donated a lovely sum of money, that will go towards improvements, as they served the Lord for generations - Thankyou.

We have on our list now that not only are the outer buildings in need of new roof iron but in the not too distant future the main building will need the same treatment.

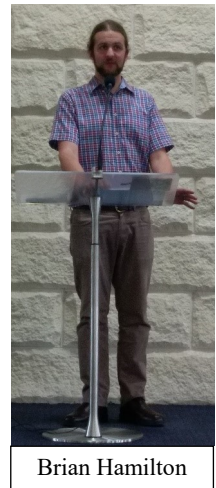
With the recent busy times at the camp we have not been able to install them yet but new built in cupboards for the Main hall to store bedding and supplies have been delivered to the camp and are waiting in the large outer cabin 6 to be fitted.

Thankfully I have my trusty wife Heather by my side and on our team, with this I can clearly remember talking to our lovely caretaker Brenton Manser, who has gone to be with the Lord, as we were heading home from a Committee meeting in the late evening about how we will be able to keep things going financially at the camp to which he said only one word – Faith

God Bless,
Harv and Heather McBain
Karnkendi.

Mount Gambier

On Sunday 21st March we were visited by Brian Hamilton from Ballarat in Victoria. Brian works for the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students, at a university in Ballarat, which is an evangelical Christian parachurch organisation that aims to encourage university students to believe in and follow Jesus Christ. The Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students has affiliated students groups on university campuses. Often called Christian Unions, they are an environment where students can study the Bible together, learn about Jesus and grow in their faith. AFES groups run a variety of activities, such as regular public Bible talks, smaller Bible studies, prayer groups, mid-year conferences and evangelistic outreach events. These activities are organised and run by both staff and students. Staff are employed through AFES for the particular university campuses. Each staff member must raise his or her own financial support, which is sent to AFES by supporters and paid out to staff as a salary.



Brian Hamilton

Also on 21st March we welcomed two new members, Dean and Gabriella Hill,

into membership of Mount Gambier Presbyterian Church. Then, on 16th May, we welcomed in membership Madeline McGregor, Gemma Hamilton and Craig Hamilton. It was wonderful to welcome these five new members into the membership of our church.

On Wednesday 14th April, the Care and Concern committee hosted an afternoon tea for the PWA ladies who have decided to close their group; this committee had been functioning since 1977 and for many years before under the banner of PWMU. The afternoon was opened by Pastor Gary Ware with words of reflection, thanksgiving and Praise to God for the work of these women and those who had preceded them, many meetings of fellowship and fund raising for missions were held over the years. Names of women who had been part of this group were recalled as the reminiscing continued, one member made mention of the welcome she had received by two members when she attended the church for the first time some years ago and they invited her to sit with them, a welcome that was much appreciated. Joan Morrison the chairperson of the group spoke to the group on the reason for closing and the times of fellowship members had enjoyed, but age and ill health has taken its toll. Joan

thanked the Care and Concern members for hosting the afternoon. Deanna Ferguson, chairperson of Care and Concern, gave a brief outline of the activities of Care and Concern and Coffee and Craft and the organisations they support. Wendy Agnew showed photos of items that can now be put in the Christmas Boxes and the lunch three members had attended at AOG church with the South Australian co-ordinator of Samaritan's Purse. Of interest was the early arrival of the shipping container to pack the boxes in. Those members who were able to stayed on into the night and packed the container after hearing if it wasn't packed that day ready to leave next day the container would remain in dock till next year. Praise God for this early arrival. The afternoon closed with afternoon tea, served by the Care and Concern members with food catered by the Bloom café, because of Covid restrictions.

The committee are planning on hosting afternoon teas for other women and men when we are able to do the catering ourselves.



Gary Ware, Dean and Gabriella Hill with their children.



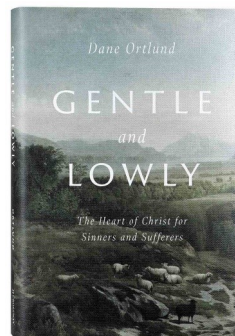
Madeline McGregor, Gemma Hamilton, Craig Hamilton and Gary Ware.

Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ For Sinners and Sufferers - Dane C Ortlund

I have read no book that more carefully, thoroughly, and tenderly displays Christ's heart."

Paul David Tripp, President, Paul Tripp Ministries;
author, *New Morning Mercies* and *My Heart Cries Out*.

Christians know what Jesus Christ has done - but who is he? What is his deepest heart for his people, weary and faltering on their journey toward heaven? Jesus said he is "gentle and lowly in heart." This book reflects on these words, opening up a neglected yet central truth about who he is for sinners and sufferers today.



Christians know that God loves them, but can easily feel that he is perpetually disappointed and frustrated, maybe even close to giving up on them. As a result, they focus a lot-and rightly so-on what Jesus has done to appease God's wrath for sin. But how does Jesus Christ actually feel about his people amid all their sins and failures? This book draws us to Matthew 11, where Jesus describes himself as "gentle and lowly in heart," longing for his people to find rest in him. The gospel flows from God's deepest heart for his people, a heart of tender love for the sinful and suffering. These chapters take readers into the depths of Christ's very heart for sinners, diving deep into Bible passages that speak of who Christ is and encouraging readers with the affections of Christ for his people. His longing heart for sinners comforts and sustains readers in their up-and-down lives.

Available from Reformers Bookshop for \$17.59 (Hardback)

(Continued from page 5)

of Jesus' words, that 'apart from Me, you can do nothing' (John 15:5).

Benjamin Franklin was not known as an ardent evangelical Christian, and his friend George Whitefield would often urge the claims of the gospel upon him. Yet during a deadlock at the American Constitutional Convention he called for prayer:

I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth – that God governs in the affairs of men; and if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that 'except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.' I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.

(Continued on page 15)

Come and Stay at Karnkendi, Nelson

Established in 1955 Karnkendi Campsite features comfortable accommodation for groups of up to 80 people in a quiet bushland setting just over the SA/Vic border at Nelson in Victoria, approximately 30kms south of Mount Gambier.

Of the fifteen rooms eight have ensuites. There is a spacious dining hall which features an open fire and a well equipped caterers kitchen for the use of campers. A conference room is available with television and DVD/VCR. A laundry with a washing machine and dryer are available for campers along with large grounds for outdoor games and activities.



Your stay at Karnkendi can be as energetic or relaxing as you choose.

The region features: excellent bushwalking in national parks, check out the migratory birds; the beach at Discovery Bay and the wild Great Southern Ocean. A walk to the Glenelg River where fishing, swimming and scenic cruising are all waiting for you. These features and the unique local limestone caves mean you'll need to return again



and again to fully experience all that Karnkendi has to offer.

This campsite is owned by the Presbyterian Church and you are all encouraged to support this campsite. Come as a family or join with several families. Get your congregation together or join with another congregation and hold a Church Congregation Camp at Karnkendi. It doesn't matter how young or how old you are, Karnkendi can cater for you.

Your campsite is in urgent need of your support. Please consider holding a camp at Karnkendi in the near future.

For pricing, more information and to book a camp contact Heather on 0448 871 225.



Vale Cathie Ross

Memorial minute adopted by the Presbytery of South Australia on May 15, 2021.

It is with the deepest sadness we learned of the death of Elder Mrs Cathie Ross in Adelaide on Wednesday May 12, 2021.

Cathie was a member of the Whyalla Congregation for twenty-three years, serving as an Elder of the congregation for fifteen years before she moved to Adelaide in 2000.

She willingly served in the Whyalla Presbyterian Women's Association for forty years – including some years as President – and in the latter years of the South Australian P.W.A. State Council was their President until it disbanded. Whilst living in Whyalla from 1991 Cathie travelled with Mrs Helen Mashford to many Presbytery and Assembly Meetings all over the state.

Cathie's love for her heavenly Father and her Saviour Jesus Christ was well known, as was her determination that the Whyalla Church remain a viable presence in Whyalla and be continually represented where it was necessary. She undertook many tasks in representing the Whyalla church in its community, earning much respect from others for the example she was of the true dedicated and committed servant.

Cathie was State President of PWA from 2007 to 2017. She was conferred with Life Membership of State PWA in 2015 after being recorded as being involved at State Level since 1991. She was on the Care & Concern Committee (2005-2012); PWMU (2007-2014); and Christian Education (2007-2016). She served as Presbyterian Representative on the World Day of Prayer Committee in Adelaide. State Secretary of the PWA, Julie McLean appreciated that Cathie was both very organised and very supportive of her fellow Office Bearers from rural areas, remembering that she loved to share her faith and was keen to do everything to the glory of God. ("whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31)

Cathie was diligent and hardworking in the church but what set her apart was her authentic relationship with God through faith in Jesus. Cathie read the Scriptures with understanding. She loved the Lord and loved to hear the Bible explained through good preaching. Cathie served with observable peace grounded in her knowledge of God and confidence in His kindness and sovereignty. She was a woman of prayer, gracious and humble yet uncompromising and unafraid to call out injustice, unfaithfulness or untruth when she saw it. Cathie valued tradition but was not enslaved to it, and her response to the gospel never failed to encourage and warm the hearts of pastors who ministered to her.



Always concerned for the outreach of the church into the community, Cathie was a woman who listened to others deeply and chose the path that honoured God and promoted the gospel of Jesus. For all her work and service at Whyalla, Para Hills, the PCSA and PWA, Cathie's greatest gift and service to us was that she lived her life captivated by the peace and presence of Christ: His forgiveness, His mercy, His faithfulness and His love. That example is an inheritance for us to receive from her as she goes on to receive her inheritance face to face with the Saviour she loves.

One of Cathie's favourite hymns epitomises her well "Take my life and let it be – consecrated, Lord, to Thee." We give all glory, praise and thanks to God for the friendship and love she shared with so many during her life. We thank our Father for hearing the many prayers that were said for her during her battle with cancer and for showing to her His mercy; and thank her Saviour and Lord for preparing a place for her, and then taking her to the house of many mansions.

Till we meet again, Cathie - "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter into the joy of your Lord." Matthew 25:23.

Compiled with input from

Mrs Helen Mills Mashford – Session Clerk – Whyalla Presbyterian Church.

Rev Damien Carson – former pastor – Para Hills Presbyterian Church

Mrs Julie McLean – former State Secretary, Presbyterian Women's Association.

Naracoorte

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

Life in our church is going along well, without any "community" activities or visitors, although we are looking forward to Rev Rudi Schwartz and his wife Heila visiting during the month of June.

Some members of the congregation have already headed north for a break and we pray for their health, safety and journeying mercies whilst they are away.

One of our ladies has been a member of the Naracoorte Singers for many years, and as they have been in recession since Covid-19 began, Margaret hasn't had the opportunity to sing publicly. However, her talent is being called upon regularly to sing during our worship services, either alone, or in leading the congregation. Her rendition of The Lord's Prayer is very reverent and beautiful.

Margaret's willingness to sing and praise our Lord, reminds me that we all have gifts given by God; and that we are called upon to use them for the benefit of others. May we all honour and revere our Father God and Jesus Christ by willingly sharing the gifts that He has given us.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

Blessing and love from the Naracoorte congregation.

Pat Leitch

Wattle Range

Millicent

Greetings to our friends all over South Australia from the Millicent Folk. Hopefully we are seeing reductions to the COVID 19 Virus numbers. We are looking forward to resuming our coffee mornings and prayer meetings.

Some of our people attended Word Day of Prayer services held at the Uniting Church and took part, and others went to Penola to their service.

We had good numbers at two Easter services with lovely weather and the usual appropriate hymns.

Most Sundays people bring along donations of fruit, eggs and vegetables from their gardens to share. Thanks to all who donate. Thanks to all who conduct the Services each Sunday and to those who do the Bible readings.

Psalm 136:1 Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his lovingkindness is everlasting.

Derek Redman

Penola

Greetings to all our church friends around the state from Penola.

Thanks to our few elders who continue to fill the pulpit each week. We are struggling but remain faithful and pray that we are able to keep meeting each week. A few of our older members have found it too hard of a struggle to attend, we do miss their presence in church. We continue to have fellowship and a cuppa after the service.

Our PWA has officially disbanded. This was a hard decision as no-one likes to see a group close but with only a few of us there was no option. We used our remaining funds for several needy projects. We thought we would share with you all as we found it quite interesting when the Leprosy mission wrote back and itemized how far \$5000 went.....

- 2 x community toilet blocks
- 5 x wheel chairs
- 6 goats
- 3 x pairs sunglasses
- 4 x soaps
- 10 people had eye surgery
- 3 x pairs of chickens.

We have so much to be grateful for in this life and country we live in. We sometimes forget that in the midst of business and pressures just to pause and give thanks for all that God has done and continues to do in our lives.

Heather Lambert

Whyalla

I'm sure that we have all found the greater part of 2020 through to the current time quite difficult due to COVID 19 restrictions. However, relaxation of regulations now finds us able to reassemble our worship area by moving our seating back to near normal. This helps us to all feel that finally the world or at least our Church world is moving towards normal, thank goodness.

Some of our more senior congregation are finding it more difficult, because of their current health, to attend every service. However, they are being remembered in prayer and are being contacted throughout each week to see how they are faring.

We have had to say farewell to one of our long standing members, Mrs Jeanette Gibbons, who has shifted to Adelaide to live with her son full time. He and his family will be looking after her. We gathered at Church on the 6th April to say farewell to her over a cuppa just before her son took her to Adelaide.

We have been, of course, missing out on a lot of social activities we formerly enjoyed, but we recommenced just recently by holding a Saturday lunch early in April. The idea was brought forward as an ice breaker to have the lunch fully catered for, which saves all the ladies from cooking and baking. It was coordinated by Mrs Fay Williams and it was worked out that the catering costs were covered by a minimal payment from each participant. The meal was followed by a quiz which raised a lot of laughter, within fellowship and laughter God blesses us all.

May it be that we all find increasing positivity in the time ahead that helps make us all aware of the ongoing plan God has for each of us.

God bless us all
Barry Williams

(Continued from page 10)

So much for an appearance on Q&A.

Yet as in all things, the paradigm is that we are creatures answerable to our Creator; the diagnosis is that we are all fallen and rebellious sinners; and the solution is that we need to repent and trust in the Lord Christ as Saviour. How simple and how hard!

With warm regards in Christ,

Peter Barnes

Rev. Dr Peter Barnes,
Moderator-General of the Presbyterian Church of Australia

PRAYER POINTS

- 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 Presbytery of South Australia, Davo Gunning Moderator, Gary Ware Clerk.
- Pray for the Adelaide Church; Davo Gunning, Peter Lim, Ben Harvey; congregations and elders.
- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- Pray for 'M' serving in west Asia.
- Uphold all those who were affected by COVID 19 throughout last year and into this year.
- Pray for the continued rollout of the COVID 19 Vaccine.
- Pray for the Presbyterian Church of Queensland
- Give thanks for the rain that has fallen over various parts of our nation and pray that God will send rain to those areas that are still in drought.
- Pray for the PIM and that someone will be found for the John Flynn Patrol.
- Pray for the Wattle Range Charge; elders and congregation.
- Pray for Christians to be instruments of truth and grace in the midst of skepticism and increasing opposition to the Christian faith.
- 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 Churches in India - pray for peace and comfort to be upon all **families and congregations of deceased pastors; Financial and practical provision** for these families, not just in the short-term but in the years to come too; **Unity among churches** to care for one another and look out for those who are floundering; The pouring in of **resources to meet the needs** of the vulnerable; **New leaders that can take over** the gap left by pastors who have died in the pandemic, so that churches can continue; **An end to the pandemic**, which has caused much devastation to the nation.

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 September 2021 issue are to be in my hands **no later than 5.00pm Monday, 16th August 2021.**

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