

ReCharge

Tasmanian Baptists News | Prayer

September/October 2022



WELCOME to the print version of the September/October 2022 **ReCharge**.

This is made available to you so you can catch up with articles released over the past two months on the Tasmanian Baptist website – and you can also read them there:

www.tasbaptists.org.au

To subscribe to ReCharge for your weekly email please visit:

<https://www.tasbaptists.org.au/subscribe/>

Please read and enjoy!

Blessings,

Jenny Baxter

Communications Manager

Tasmanian Baptists

To contribute, query or comment please email me on jenny@tasbaptists.org.au

Deep Thought September 2022



A Change in Thinking for Changing Times

Mission in the 21st Century is necessarily very different to the mission of yesteryear.

By Laurie Rowston

The preaching once heard from evangelists of the past such as Henry Varley, which was used so effectively to tell people about Jesus, has lost its persuasiveness in part because the language of religious experience is increasingly unfamiliar.

If we keep using methods that worked for them to talk to non-church attenders about Jesus, we might see some fruit. But we can be quite certain we'll lose the vast majority, and we'll lose the vast majority under age 35.

Further, even the great and thoughtful preaching of that era, such as sought after by Congregational Church preachers, will not fill a church, as much as we wish it would and think it should.

What is more, it is harder today to put together a good 20-minute sermon than a prattling 40-minute conversation. On the [saw-dust trail](#), it was a case of bringing folk to Christian faith in a limited time frame.

Keeping the mission alive

So, in the post-Christian, post-modern age in which we live, the method of evangelism must change in order to keep the mission alive.

Here are a few pointers . . . and they have more to do with the subject of evangelism generally, than the week-by-week preaching in church. For these ideas I am indebted to Carey Nieuwhof, who is pastor of one of the most influential churches in North America.

“
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LAURIE ROWSTON



Embracing the question is as important as giving an answer

Evangelism used to be mostly about helping people find answers but, often, in the process of providing an answer, we fail to really embrace or honour their question.

Steering the conversation is better than pushing for a conclusion

We should not step away from people's questions. We need to learn to listen without judgment. We need to affirm a person's intentions. Being open is more effective than being certain. We can be certain. Ultimately, we must be certain because our faith is certain. Our faith stands on a sure and certain ground. But, when talking to others, coming across as certain is far less effective than coming across as open. The person who is always certain thinks they're being convincing, when the opposite is often true.

We need to learn to listen without judgment.

Arrogance, smugness and superiority are dead

For too long putting the case for Christianity has been carried with a tone of arrogance, smugness and superiority. It was the case with Billy Sunday. There was a triumphalism in his words. This triumphalism continued in "Moral Majority", and today continues in the preaching of imaginative TV preachers.

Arrogance is so ingrained in many Christian cultures that Christians don't even see it or hear it anymore. Humility is attractive. Humility is what makes Jesus so much more attractive to people. Spreading the kingdom does not mean hell-fire evangelism; it means living a Christ-like life.

Humility is what makes Jesus so much more attractive to people.

The timeline is longer

We like to conclude everything in about 35 seconds; revivalists did, within the hour. Increasingly, evangelism doesn't work that way. People who come to faith when pressured often leave it after a few years.

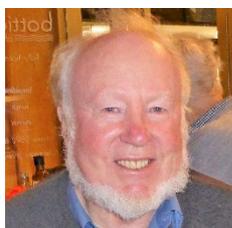
Conversely, the people who come to faith in their own timeline tend to be flourishing years down the road. It took the disciples three years to figure out who Jesus was, didn't it? We need people and leaders who will take the time to go on a journey with people.

But for the revivalists such as Billy Sunday, it all had to be done in the time frame of the particular revivalist meeting. People were there to hear the message, respond to the message, acknowledge their sin, repent and commit.

It is true we are not to lose our sense of urgency in the mission, as we should not raise doubts where there are none. But we need to give people space, and we need to give the Holy Spirit space to do His work.

“The people who come to faith in their own timeline tend to be flourishing years down the road.”

Laurie Rowston



Laurie Rowston is Tasmanian Baptists' historian. His latest book, *Tasmanian Baptists, Lessons from Our First Twenty Years*, will soon be available at. lrowston@tassie.net.au

Ben Cochrane – Somerset



Ministry Profile

Ben Cochrane Moves In

Ben began as the new pastor at Somerset in March 2022. Having had a few months to settle in, it's a good time to touch base and find out more about him.

Pastoral beginnings

I was born in the Northern Suburbs of Brisbane and am the second of four siblings. My dad was (and still is) a pastor in the Pentecostal Church, so much of my childhood revolved around the church. My parents modeled for me a sincere passion for Jesus and a costly commitment to His people.

Because I grew up in a Pastor's household, I was exposed to the Gospel from an early age. However, after experiencing a number of personal crises in my late teens, I started engaging with my faith with fresh eyes. All of a sudden it was as if the Lord Jesus became real to me in a way that He hadn't in the past. Since then, I have been on a spiritual path of discovery in the Lord.

My wife, Sharmani, and I arrived in Tasmania in March 2022.

For some years we felt drawn to this beautiful place and to serve God's people here. It all came together when an opportunity arose to serve as Pastor of Somerset Baptist.

Sharmini and I love the wild beauty of the North-West. The cooler climate is also a welcome



Ben Cochrane, and Sharmani, with their daughter Margo

change from the sweltering humidity up in Queensland. But what we enjoy most about living here is the people. The locals have just been so warm and generous towards our little family.

Changes, changes everywhere

The best piece of advice I have ever received is to be patient! God works in His own time! Because I have the tendency to rush and be impatient, this was some sound advice.

I am the pastor of Somerset Baptist. As a pastor of a small church, you tend to have to wear my different hats! But I consider the primary focus of my role to be helping others follow Jesus. In a world that is rapidly changing, this is getting harder and harder to do.

I spend my time shepherding people. Depending on the given week, this may look different. It may look like doing an Alpha Course with someone exploring the Christian faith. It may look like visiting an older member in a nursing home and encouraging her in her faith. Or even meeting up with a younger member for a coffee and reading the Bible together and thinking about how it applies to our lives. All this variation is part of what makes ministry exciting.

I get excited by witnessing God's transforming power at work in the lives of everyday people. This might sound really basic, but I get a front row seat to this!

My big challenges focus around how our culture is becoming more and more post-Christian. Many of the older ways of reaching the lost are simply no longer effective. Part of the challenge of ministry today is having to think of new ways to re-engage people with the message of Jesus.

Please pray for our family as we continue to settle into a new community. Pray for boldness to step out of my comfort zone and make connections with people in Somerset. And, most especially, pray for patience.

And briefly

I am looking forward to . . . seeing God show His faithfulness.

I am worried about . . . whether I have what it takes.

I am confident that . . . God has my back!

I am joyful about . . . watching my family grow and seeing God's transforming grace in people's lives.

I would like to change . . . my pessimism.

I am at my best when . . . I've spent five minutes in silent prayer, and had my morning coffee.



“
Be patient!
God works in His
own time!”

Around the Churches

August-September 2022



North

CITY, Launceston



On the move

City's last service and Fellowship Lunch at Christchurch, Frederick Street Launceston

On 28th August City Baptist held its final service in the historic Christchurch building in Frederick Street. This was a wonderful time of celebration and thanksgiving. The congregation reflected on the amazing 180 years of stories encapsulated in the old buildings.

Ivan James led those present through the long history of Baptists in Launceston, and Kay Hunter led a time of remembering and thanksgiving for the current congregation. A lovely fellowship lunch in Milton Hall capped off a great day as the doors were closed for the final time.

On Sunday 4th September City Baptist met at the Worldview Centre auditorium at St Leonards.

This will be their home for six months or so. Anthea Maynard and Jenna Blackwell led the Gathering in recognising our corporate calling as we step consciously into a new, liminal space.

Our Drop-in Centre ministry has also moved to a new venue, the Red Dove Café at Pilgrim Uniting in the city centre.

GATEWAY



Comings and Goings

Farewell to the Beeston family, Andy, Penny, Mikaela and Emalyn. We officially said goodbye at the service on the 7th of August. We shared lunch together after the service.

Congratulations Gayatri & Sanjay Sagar on the arrival of Ruhi Sagar, sister to Brianna born 15th August 2022. **Congratulations** to Gateway's A Reserve Men's Basketball team on reaching finals. They played in the Baptist Grand Final on Saturday 27th August, and were runners up to the Free Reformed Men's team. Final result 26 to 40.

Our sincere love and condolences are extended to all the family of Chris Sundstrup who died at home on 31st August. Chris was a valued member of Gateway, a willing contributor and much appreciated Church Treasurer.

GEORGE TOWN



Guest speakers visit

Pastor Abdul-Karim Kamara brought the message to George Town Baptist Church on Sunday Morning 28th August. He asked the question "How Keen Are you to Serve the Lord?" It was a challenging and uplifting message.

Erik McKitrick addressed the Men's Breakfast in August, explaining how we can effectively share the gospel in ways that are easy and inoffensive to others.

Wade Miller, whose family once owned the Hillwood apple and berry farms spoke at the September Breakfast meeting.

NEWSTEAD



Men in the shed

One recent Friday, the men were treated to some time in the shed with the master, Phil Marston, telling his story of the blessing of procuring these machines that enable him to manufacture anything out of metal. One such labour of love is his Lila (purple) 1948 Dodge Fargo which we got to have a look and listen to. Phil also demonstrated the art of cutting a thread on a bolt.

The men left with a couple of reflections: A master who has been doing the job for a long time knows his tools and what he is working with, reflecting Jeremiah 18:1-17 the Potter and the clay. Finally, when change comes, when our eyes are on God and not our situation we come out the stronger and blessed.

Spring into action!

Newstead Baptist is springing into spring starting a new series: The Kings Apprentice: Our Moments with the Master, and providing resources to participate in a 40-day prayer guide.

On Sunday August 28th we had a meeting to develop our strategic plan for the next five years.

Pastor Dan is also glad to be moved into their new house in Newstead, and took a couple of weeks off to settle in.

PERTH



A Very Special Service

On Sunday, 4th September we celebrated our Church's link to the Eskleigh Foundation which has, amongst its other services for people with a disability, this residential home in Perth.

Originally, our Church Hall was built by David and Mary Gibson and opened 160 years ago. When it grew too small, they built our Tabernacle in 1888, in which we continue to meet.

When their large family home got too big for them, they gave it to the community as a place for adults with severe or multiple disabilities. Several residents and their carers attend our morning

service and where suitable other events during the week.

How The Day Went

On this particular Sunday, we had three buses turn up at 9:05 with a sense that the morning was going to be special.

How different to attend a service where our friends met, welcomed, and prayed for us. Two helped take up our offering with great enthusiasm, and another prayed her special prayer of thanks.

Ron, a carer who has continued to work past his age of retirement to bring them to our service, spoke of the impact coming to church has on the residents. To him, he believes that every Sunday morning has an impact. He referred to the scarfs and other things knitted by our members and the other gifts given to them over the years.

We were blessed to sit and be ministered to so enthusiastically by our lovely friends.

The theme of the service was *Kindness*, with a link to 1 Corinthians 13 with the encouragement for us all to seek out our neighbour as the Good Samaritan did, and show that special kindness that comes from God's love to all we encounter people every day.

It is such a blessing that one of our members works at Eskleigh, and has a day-to-day relationship with the staff and residents. Rob arranged and led the service, followed by a great morning tea and fellowship.

Northwest

LATROBE

Chocolate Winterfest



The weekend of 14th August saw the return of the Latrobe Chocolate Winterfest, after a two year absence because of Covid. The Latrobe church over the years has taken part in the festival by inviting the *Choir of High Hopes* from Launceston to come and perform in the church on the Sunday afternoon. This year it was wonderful to have them back again. 25 choir members came and presented a wonderful afternoon of songs and items.

A “chocolate themed afternoon tea” followed, which everyone loved. Many people contributed to the amazing food on offer which included biscuits decorated with music notes in keeping with the music from the Choir. This was a great opportunity to be part of the community, and to be a witness to the people of Latrobe.

WYNYARD



Getting together

Just Blokes meets quarterly with some very interesting speakers. In June we heard from a former policeman who spoke of his work and his journey of overcoming cancer.

Just Girls. In June, our ladies met for breakfast at a cafe in Burnie, then onto some retail therapy in Devonport. In July, we met for lunch and enjoyed an interesting PowerPoint presentation. It was given by a local lady who has lived and worked overseas for many years.

Wednesday Get Together meets twice monthly. It's a great time of fun and fellowship with carpet bowls and board games, a shared morning tea and a cake to celebrate those who have had birthdays.

Child sponsorship. We continue to support two children through Baptist World Aid with money from our cappuccino sales on Sunday morning after-church fellowship.

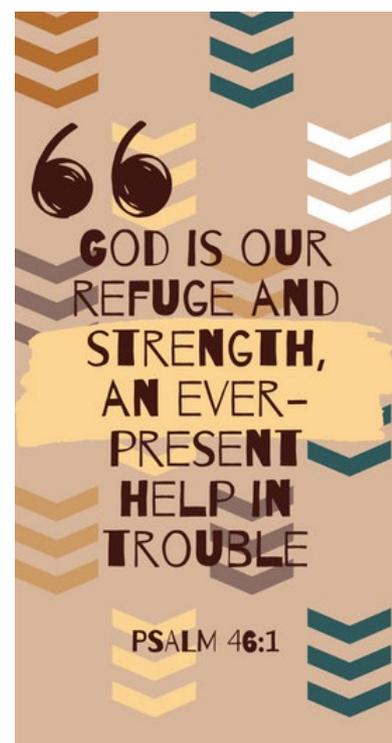
South CITYWIDE

Domestic Violence Awareness We recently held a day seminar to inform us about domestic violence. This is to begin to prepare us as a church to minister to people who have suffered in this way. 25 people were educated, inspired, challenged, and began to see possibilities of how Citywide might develop a ministry in this area.

Alpha Citywide are in the middle of an *Alpha* course, the first we've offered for many years. We are delighted over 50 people attend, of whom approximately 12 are first time questioners and open to seeking God. Please pray with us for Kingdom growth.

Life Group Leaders' Lunch We recently held the first of quarterly lunches for Life Group Leaders for training, encouragement and sharing of group issues. At Citywide, 10 different groups operate involving 100 people. We want to increase our support of these valuable groups who facilitate a large part of our pastoral care.

Psalm 46:1 was a key verse during the DV Awareness Training.



CLAREMONT

Farewell Heather

Claremont are sad to announce that Heather Elise Hunt died on Saturday 23rd July after a short illness.

She was aged 94.

Heather incredible work during the formation of Claremont Baptist is legendary. (See the Claremont Church Profile, ReCharge July/August 2022)



HOBART



Youth car wash

HBC Youth, combined with the Boys' Brigade, are raising funds to support a Karen teacher in a Thai refugee camp. So far they have raised over \$1100, including \$450 from a Saturday afternoon car wash and coffee event. Nice work everyone!

Alpha Course

A Sunday afternoon Alpha course began at Hobart on 31st July, and will continue through until 9th October. Please pray for the participants, especially for those who are new to faith. It has been a very encouraging time of seeking and searching the answers to important life questions.

Living Hope

For the last few months our sermons have focused on Peter's letters with Living Hope – Changing Your Life for the Better. Jesus-followers are called to a Living Hope – hope that is alive and a hope that is lived.

As well, we have ceased our pre-recorded YouTube services and are now live-streaming. These are available from 10am Sunday mornings on the Hobart Baptist YouTube channel.

Floods in Pakistan



Baptist World Aid: Keeping you informed

By Jo Kadlacek

Monsoon rains regularly affect the north of Pakistan. However, this year recent rains, combined with melting glaciers, have created catastrophic flooding. Over 1,400 have died since June, a third of whom are children, and the floods have affected 33 million people. Sadly, the death toll rises daily.

Almost a third of the country has been underwater. As well, more than three million children are in danger of waterborne diseases, malnutrition and drowning. According to UNICEF, these kids need urgent humanitarian assistance.

Long recovery

‘There is no question Pakistan’s tragic floods will require a long-term response. A recovery that will take years,’ said Laura Fontaine, International Programs Manager at Baptist World Aid. ‘That’s why we have begun the

immediate work of partnering with other Christian organisations and their local partners who are currently doing food and shelter distribution.’

Crops and livestock are destroyed and infrastructure between many villages is now non-existent. Pakistani officials say more than two million acres of agricultural land is flooded, preventing remaining farmers from planting new ones. They are calling the floods the worst in the region’s history.

“Pakistan needs our prayers and our coordinated help to bring immediate relief



'Where do you drain the water? It's an ocean. It's a merciless sky.'

Sherry Rehman, Pakistan's Climate Minister

Pakistani government's response

The government distributed water pumps in recent weeks, but the equipment is overwhelmed, according to Sherry Rehman, Pakistan's climate minister. 'Where do you drain the water?' Rehman said. 'It's an ocean. It's a merciless sky.'

The flooding comes at a particularly difficult time for Pakistan. Economic downturns, poverty and food shortages have troubled the country.

'The human toll is unimaginable in every way,' Fontaine said. 'Pakistan needs our prayers and our coordinated help to bring immediate relief and begin the difficult but crucial work of long-term recovery.'

PLEASE PRAY FOR PAKISTAN:

- That children would be safe, reunited with family, and have psycho-social support; For quick and safe delivery of humanitarian aid, despite flooded roads;
- That God's people would provide ongoing support, prayer and assistance for the Pakistani people in the years to come.

DONATE TO PAKISTAN APPEAL

<https://baptistworldaid.org.au/appeals/pakistan-flood-appeal/>



Jo Kadlecek moved to Australia from Boston six years ago. She lives in Sydney with her husband and their dog, Clark Kent. Jo is the senior editor at Baptist World Aid Australia.

ReCharge NEWS

September 2022

Walk the World

Baptist Mission Australia, November 11-13, 2022

Walk the World is an invitation for your church, families, and people of all ages to get out in your local area and pray for your neighbourhood and the world.

This is a fun and interactive new way for you and your church, family or small group to have a Kingdom impact! Watch the video to find out more: <https://vimeo.com/738487111>



Across the weekend of 11th -13th November 2022, commit to praying as you walk, run, wheel, cycle, imagine or drive around your area. Pray for God to be at work in your community and in communities around the world. As you do, our teams in Africa, Asia and Australia will be praying for you too!

Resources for all ages are coming soon. These are being developed to help equip and inform your prayer time as an individual, family or group.

Everyone is invited to get involved!

Voice of the Martyrs

IN TASMANIA, 10th to 22nd November 2022

Marcel Enuica is the Tas/Vic representative for Voice of the Martyrs, an Australian ministry which began in 1969. He will be in Tasmania from 10th-22nd November and would like to visit your church!

His ministry is to serve and work with local churches to help them understand persecution. He explains how they can prayerfully and practically respond to the challenges and opportunities it presents.

He explains what persecution is, what it isn't and provides stories as the voice for those who are in prison, those who are persecuted, and those who have paid the ultimate price for their faith.



Marcel could work with your church to plan a prayer meeting, service, or movie night. Perhaps your church could organise an event or movie night, and invite other churches in the area.

MOVIES AVAILABLE

• **Sabina, Tortured for Christ** telling the story of Richard and Sabina Wurmbbrand. If you're interested in either of the movies, they can be made available for free on the night. You can also contact Marcel for a private link to look at them beforehand.

Contact Marcel: menuica@vom.com.au | +61 457 689 169

Tasmanian Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast

23rd November 2022 | Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart



The Tasmanian Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast brings together like-minded people from across Tasmania to pray for our State, our leaders, parliamentarians, businesses, schools, communities, and community organisations, our families, youth, and children. In the name of Jesus, we ask God to grant us the will and wisdom, the creativity and strength we need to care well for each other and to see Tasmania flourish in every dimension.

Hosted by Tasmanian Baptists' Mission Director Stephen Baxter, you can join this special moment of unity and humility.

This year's speaker is passionate Tasmanian, Robyn Moore, pictured right. Robyn began her career as an educator, then explored her love of recording and entertainment in Sydney, becoming Australia's most versatile voice-over artist in iconic commercials, award-winning syndicated radio comedy and in animation series, seen around the world.



She calls herself a "RE-MINDAVATOR" rather than a motivational speaker, and was recently recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours list with an AM for services to the performing Arts and to Charitable Organisations.

Early-bird registrations close Friday 14th October 2022.

Pilgrim Artists Festival

JUSTICE AND MERCY

4th-14th November 2022

The sixth annual “small festival of art, music, and words” will be held in 2022 at the Huon Valley Hub. The workshops, live art, concerts, panel discussions, and award events will occur on the first weekend of the festival, with the exhibition continuing through the 14th.

The Pilgrim Artists Festival 2022 seeks submissions reflecting on ***Justice and Mercy***.

Entries are accepted from Christian artists worldwide, of all ages. Your entry need not be explicitly religious, but should engage meaningfully with this year’s prompt.

If you are over 18, submit by 1 October and your submission is free.

Late adult submissions incur a fee. We cannot accept adult submissions after 22nd October. If under 18, your submission is always free, and you may submit until 29th October.

See entry forms for further details, including terms and prizes.

<https://www.pilgrimartists.com/2022-pilgrim-artists-festival/2022-submissions/>



Farewell Nancy Jones

8th May 1936 – 20th July 2022

Nancy Jones of Pamela Court Summerhill, passed away on the 20th July 2022 after a short illness.

Nancy was born in Hobart and attended the Macquarie Street School. In 1958 through to 1962, Nancy trained as a nurse’s assistant while studying to be a nurse in Aged Care. That same year Nancy moved to Launceston and met and married Clarrie Powell who had built a house in Walkers Avenue, going on to have two children, Karenlee (stillborn) and Shane.

In 1984 she met Des, and married him in 1985. Des’s son David became part of the family, and it was at this time that Nancy decided to dedicate her life to being a fantastic and wonderful mother. This included bringing up two of Des’s grandchildren Kirsten and Ricky who they adopted in 1991. She made it her mission to improve the lives of others.

While living at Hagley, Des and Nancy attended the Longford Baptist Church. They were involved in assisting with work among young people, especially at the annual camps at Liffey.



Des and Nancy and their two children, Kirsten and Ricky, attended the Newstead Baptist Church very regularly through the 1990s. Nancy was a passionate about craft. When she wasn't filling her home with warmth and kindness, she could be found at the Newstead Baptist Church Chat 'n' Choose craft group.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Nancy's Memorial Service at 11:30am on Sunday 11th September at Newstead Baptist Church.

Hear Pastor Peter Kasirivu

WHEN: Friday 2nd September 7-8.30pm

WHERE: Gateway Baptist Church, 22 Wellington Street, opposite Morty's

FREE EVENT: with a love offering

Peter J. Kasirivu is the founding pastor of Gaba Community Church Uganda, and the founder and president of Africa Renewal Ministries. Peter is also the founder and chancellor of Africa Renewal University in Uganda. Peter is a born-again Christian, having come to salvation in January 1981.



He travelled to more than 15 nations, teaching leaders as well as preaching the Gospel. Peter is known for his passion for developing leaders through his weekly TV program on LTV known as the Excellent Life. As well as he runs the annual outreaches to Uganda's many universities.

His greatest love is to help and encourage up-coming leaders. Peter has so far written two books, *Your Vision Is Your Future* and *The African Pastors' Handbook*.

Carols in Your Backyard

Your church can run a local carols outreach, without the cost and complexity of professional musicians and staging!

Carols in Your Backyard is a professionally produced and recorded live-stream event for pre-evangelism at Christmas.

Produced by Gymea Baptist and now in its third year, it will be available free and unbranded. Gymea has decided to commit to the live-streamed format of carols due to its potential to reach more people than a traditional carols event and its ability to foster genuine relationships formed in smaller settings.

You can stream Carols in Your Backyard wherever you can set up a screen and speakers: in a park, church hall, car park, lounge room, or backyard.

Expressions of interest are open now. Send Belinda Lakelin an email and she'll be in touch with resources and the stream details. belinda.lakelin@gymeabaptist.org.au



PROFILE

Newstead Baptist Church



Hi, I am Dan Hutchison. Back in April 2021 I first opened the door to the possibility of moving on from Citywide with the prayer and heart to follow Jesus wherever He wanted us as a family to be. Together, with my wife Maria and three kids, we felt Jesus' call to take on the role as pastor at NBC.

In the interview, I was very clear that I still have much to learn but felt with the experience and training here in Tasmania, I was ready to take the leap. Newstead Baptist were also willing to take the leap as we both dreamed of what the future could hold, seeing a shared desire for God's Kingdom.

Trusting God to go deeper

On Induction Day, I was overwhelmed by the hospitality and servant-hearted people we have at 5NBC. I highlighted the three rivers that come together in Launceston, and the North Esk river that moves through Newstead and our call as disciples to trust God to go deeper with Him, that together we will see Newstead / Launceston flourish.

At that time, one of the ways my family was being challenged to trust was that we had not yet moved into our home in Newstead. As we waited, we were blessed with the provision of a unit at Worldview Centre for intercultural studies. We were there for seven-months, and are grateful for the connections and partnership formed. One of the ways we collaborated was inviting Dan Misdorn, the Principal, to share during May Mission Month.



The Hutchisons on Induction Day, 9th January 2022

God's fruit is growing!

I am also thankful for organisations like Crossover and Baptist Mission Australia for the content they provide. Sermon series and advertising which you can see we use for our services and on our Facebook page. Preaching-wise I have enjoyed preparing our sermon series on Australian stories (The Coming of the Light), and The King's Apprentice: Our Moments with the Master.

Most of all I have enjoyed getting to know the people at NBC and strengthening our connections with our community. Over the last few weeks, we have been discerning and working together on our next three-year strategic plan. We are very excited to see what fruit God grows.

P.S We are now in our house, enjoying settling-in, walking everywhere, and connecting with our neighbours.



Dan Hutchison

Pastor, Newstead Baptist

A brief history of Newstead Baptist

From its beginnings in 1935, as an outreach from the Elphin Road Church, the Newstead Baptist Church has never looked back. In the beginning it was perfectly situated in a rapidly-growing suburb of Launceston, and

NEWSTEAD

remains well located today. It comprises an exquisite

HISTORY

Sanctuary and spacious halls to meet its every need.

The work steadily continues under the leadership of the newly appointed pastor, Daniel Hutchison.

LAURIE ROWSTON
TASMANIAN BAPTISTS HISTORIAN

Changes, changes, everywhere

REFLECTION BY A LONG-TIME MEMBER OF NEWSTEAD

Over recent years, Newstead Baptist experienced an unsettling period of change with several short-term pastorates and losses of some members and ministries.

While without a pastor in 2019/20, visiting speakers assisted with Sunday services, current ministries



Left to right: Newstead Church Service; Our spacious hall; Church lunch, Covid-style; Dan Hutchison's induction by Northern regional minister, Maddy Svoboda.

continued and, as members worked together and encouraged each other, a warm, more settled community was re-established.

Early in 2020, Stephen Baxter, our Baptist State Mission Director worked with the congregation to seek God's leading for the church.

The outcome of those talks gave the church two areas to focus on:

1. Reaching and ministering to younger families
2. Extending the Seniors' ministries

Then, Covid-19 descended and in response to pandemic restrictions, services and Bible studies ceased. In common with everyone locally and globally, there were feelings of isolation, separation and loneliness.

It was, however, encouraging to see the lovely ways people continued to contact and keep in touch with each other. On-line services helped. It was great to know that outside viewers, who did not normally attend any church, also 'tuned in'.

Despite the restrictions of social-distancing, hand-sanitising, check-ins and masks, it's been wonderful to return to shared fellowship together for Sunday services, study groups and other activities.

A new start

We also conducted a search for a new pastor during this time. At the end of 2021, we appointed Daniel Hutchison, with his wife Maria and children Skylah, Octavia and Boaz. On the 9th of January 2022, we welcomed them to Newstead Baptist Church.

As Daniel and the people begin working together, we continue with current ministries.

1. *Seniors' Drop-in Centre*
2. Chat 'n' Choose craft group (celebrating 30 years)
3. Little Fish (Sunday morning kid's program)
4. Neighbourhood Heartbeat (community newsletter delivered to 1500 local homes)
5. Three life groups

As we move forward, we look forward to the development of new ministries.

We're grateful to have several rooms on our premises. These are utilised by community groups for tutoring, dancing, scouts and cubs, water colour painting, exercise groups and so on. These provide us with local contacts and offer the opportunity to expand our outreach activities.

In a recent workshop with Craig Farmer (Partners in Ministry), we shared our dreams for the future, and visualised the church in five years' time. Now, we move forward together. We seek God's guidance in planning programs and activities to further His Kingdom in 'our little corner'.

Mustard Schools Ministry



Tasmanian Youth

Supporting High School Students ...

... In Their Mission Field

Mustard is a non-denominational ministry focused on transforming lives through Jesus in schools and in particular empowering students to step up and be leaders in their school communities.

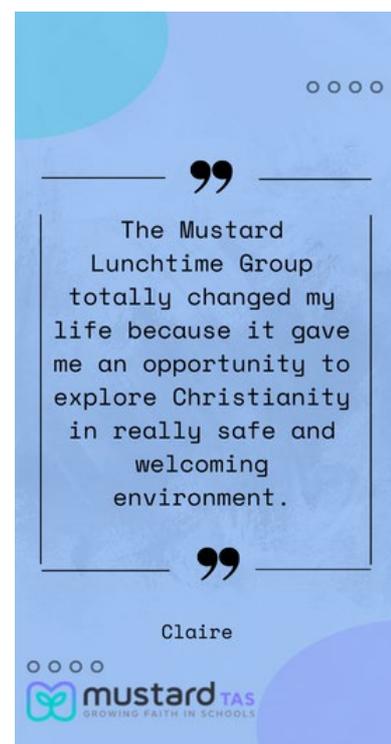
We encourage and support students to run student-led Lunchtime Groups where they can come together, discuss faith and explore the bigger questions in life.

Pastors, teachers, chaplains and mentors are all incredibly important in developing faith in youth, but these days there is a limit to what they can do in the school setting. Therefore, the most powerful influencers are the students themselves.

When students are equipped and encouraged to lead their peers to Jesus, they can have a huge impact in both state and private schools.

HOW DOES MUSTARD SUPPORT STUDENTS?

Once we have connected with students who are willing to be bold and lead a Lunchtime Group in their school, we support them in a number of different ways:



- **Personalised mentoring.** This includes helping students plan their group, liaising with school leadership, training to lead Bible discussions and praying with them.
- **The Mustard Hub web-app.** This gives students access to a range of Bible study resources that work well in the limited time of a school lunch break.
- **Connect them with a network.** Other students from around Tassie can encourage share their experiences.
- **Partnering in private schools.** We can also partner with Christian students in private schools to help run chapel services, or big group presentations. This way they can share the gospel in creative and engaging ways.

We would love your support in our ministry across Tasmania. You can partner with Mustard by:

1. Connecting us with students

Do you know a student who would like to lead a Lunchtime Group? Can you connect us with a youth group, a youth camp, church or school. Then, we can visit and invite youth to consider starting a Lunchtime Group! If you are a teacher, chaplain, or staff member at a school, you could play an integral role in supporting a Lunchtime Group.

2. Praying for students

There is a prayer network praying for our student leaders, and a special prayer chain for our students during exams. You can receive prayer emails and help cover these brave young people in prayer.

You can sign up to receive prayer emails here: <https://mustard.org.au/subscribe/>.

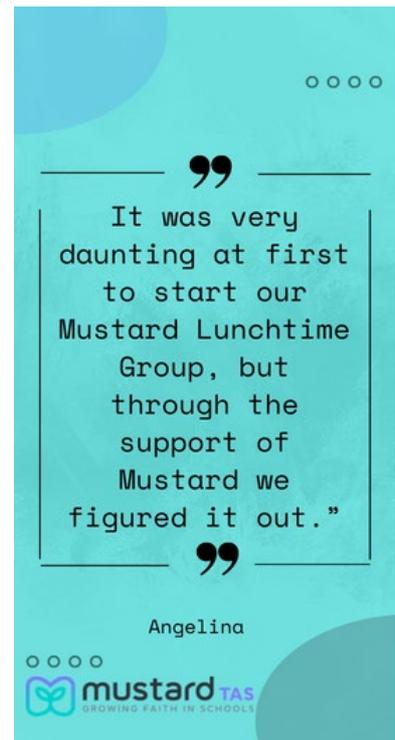
3. Financially

We rely on the generous donations of individuals and churches to employ our State Director, Nicole Mayall. Funds are also needed to help resource our Lunchtime Group leaders.

You can become a grower through a one off or regular donation by signing up at: <https://mustard.org.au/donate/>

4. Volunteering

Mustard needs volunteers! Help mentor lunchtime students, sing, act or speak at our big group schools' presentations and provide administrative support.



For more information about Mustard, or how you can help, please contact Nicole Mayall at nicole@mustard.org.au

Nicole attends Citywide Baptist Church.

Does God Really Care?



From the **Mission Director**

Does God Really Care?

That's an important question I was asked recently. It was asked not out of personal concern, but about the future of planet earth. They had attended church for a time, and had heard "the Good News". But from their perspective it didn't sound like good news at all because it seemed to have little to say about environment, and survival of humans.

There are many in our community who feel the same. The way we tell the story of Jesus just seems irrelevant to their key worries. Sometimes our telling of "the Good News" is heard as "believe in Jesus and get a free ticket out of earth to heaven". When it is heard that way, God sounds disconnected, detached and quite disinterested in what happens in our lives, here on earth today. Our emphasis on 'heaven' has neglected earth, and turned it into something like an incidental waiting room for the afterlife.

||
Our emphasis on 'heaven' has neglected earth, and turned it into an incidental waiting room for the afterlife.



Setting to Rights

This is far from what Jesus taught. In his book *Simply Christian*, N. T. Wright states, "Despite what many people think ... the point of Christianity is not 'to go to heaven when you die' [rather it is] to put the whole creation to rights"^[1]. Paul says the same things when he writes, God's purpose is "to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ."^[2]

God's purpose is "to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. *Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)*

Paul's focus is not on getting from earth to heaven. In fact, it is the other way round — it is about getting heaven down to us.

If we think of all the things that go wrong in the world, it's easy to picture a huge gap between heaven and earth. But that's not how the Bible describes it. Heaven is not a long way away; it is very close.

In fact, Jesus was always on about seeing what God was up to in the world. He often declared the "kingdom of heaven has come near".^[3] But despite all his miracles and healings, people struggled to see it.

An inquisitive religious teacher Nicodemus came to see Jesus. Although impressed by what he saw in Jesus, he wanted to know more. Jesus said to him that, "no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."^[4] To observe and understand what Jesus was on about, to see God's kingdom at work, Nicodemus needed a new set of eyes.

"To observe and understand what Jesus was on about, to see God's kingdom at work, Nicodemus needed a new set of eyes."

Change Your Mind!

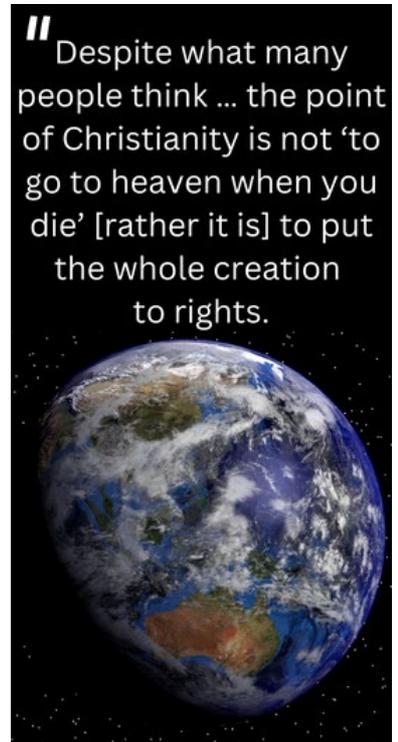
And it wasn't just Nicodemus. We all need a new set of eyes.

Jesus announced, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 3:3, 4:17). The English 'repent' isn't a great translation of the original Greek, *metanoia*. But at least it's better than the Latin translation (Vulgate) which reads, "Do penance! For the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Martin Luther was sure penance was not what Jesus meant, and translated *metanoia* as 'change your mind,' which is better than our 'repentance'.

Metanoia comes from two Greek words, *metá* meaning "beyond" or "after", and *noe* meaning "perception", "understanding" or "mind".

So, an even better translation is perhaps "think beyond". This means Jesus was saying, "prepare yourself for what is about to come—open your mind, your heart, your eyes."



Future Potential

The Good News is not that Jesus has come to whisk us away to heaven. Rather he came to reunite heaven and earth. His purpose was for heaven and earth to interlock and overlap. To be woven together in a vibrant tapestry which Paul calls “the new creation”^[5].

Jesus didn't come to make us sorry for our sin, although that is a helpful part of the process. Instead, he wanted us to be excited by a fresh start. His emphasis was not on the failings of the past, but upon the potential of the future.

“Jesus’ emphasis was not on the failings of the past, but upon the potential of the future.”

God deeply cares about the future of our world, and that is exactly why Jesus came. He calls us to a new life focused on love for each other in the power of the Spirit. If we all lived that way, then the future of the earth would be ensured. Surely, this is Good News, and surely this is what our world needs to hear.



Stephen Baxter

Mission Director

Tasmanian Baptists

stephen@tasbaptists.org.au

[1] (p. 217).

[2] Ephesians 2:10

[3] For example, Matthew 3:3, 4:17, 10:7

[4] John 3:3

[5] 2 Corinthians 5:17

Deep Thought October 2022



The Sound of Silence

Or perhaps, the 'Fear of Silence'?

Maybe we fear silence because we think it will be empty.

By Denise Stephenson

Each morning I listen to a short, guided meditation using the Lectio 365 app. Every day, the morning begins with these words:

"As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly, to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God."

These words fall on me, inviting me to detach myself from all that has been happening, and all that will unfold during the day, inviting me to turn my attention from the storm of life and curl up beside Jesus in the stern of the boat. (Mark 4:35-41)

I long for quiet spaces. Constant noise, whether it is chatter, traffic, background music, exhaust fans (the worst!) makes me irritated, unsettled and distracted. But quiet spaces are becoming rarer in our public and private lives. People are, it seems, uncomfortable with silence and go to great lengths to avoid it.

Having been a Spiritual Director and Retreat Leader for over 22 years, I have seen how unsettled people become when a moment of silence begins to draw out from seconds to minutes. Many

people become restless, anxious and fearful. The pressure is on to bring the silence to a close. In a group of people, someone often seems compelled to say something to end the silence.

Why do we fear silence so much?

“Diving through the ‘surface’ of ourselves, of the noise and chatter of our lives, we find a deeper current of peace.”

Maybe it is because when we quiet our mouth, our mind goes into overdrive. All the thoughts buried under busyness have space to express themselves and they hammer at the door of our mind, demanding to be heard. This feels overwhelming, but if “we allow our mind to simply listen, we perhaps begin to hear our heart speak – faintly, beneath the clatter. It says, ‘I am so weary, so lost. I have no energy to redeem myself. How I long for rest.’”²

When we dive beneath the surface of a stormy sea, we leave the turmoil on the surface. Only a few meters down, the water is perfectly calm. This image can help us as we come to prayer: diving through the ‘surface’ of ourselves, of the noise and chatter of our lives, we find a deeper current of peace.

Quiet prayer tunes in to the deeper current of our innermost desires and fears. When we bring this deeper self to God in prayer, God speaks in ways that bring healing, hope and strength.³

Counter-cultural?

The unsettling, uncomfortable experience of silence, or quietness, that we may experience arises from our unfamiliarity with this space.

Places that were once quiet (libraries, cinemas, churches) aren't anymore. Quiet spaces are counter-cultural and becoming rare, and yet we need these spaces to give meaning to our lives. Without the silent listening after our words of prayer, we cannot hear God's speaking to our heart:

- A pause following a friend sharing from the heart, allows the words to be honoured. It stops us hurrying carelessly to words.
- In the silence, after someone breathes their final breath, we hear the release from pain and the sense the soul's ending.
- In the quiet of waiting for another to arrive we experience our longing for connection.

Sitting in the stillness

Practicing stillness, quiet, and silence, grows a sacred space within

Maybe we fear silence because we think it will be empty. But silence can be rich with meaning, and emotion. It takes conscious intention to notice the quiet pauses in daily living.



It takes practice to sit in the stillness. You may think there is nowhere quiet in your life. You might be surprised. Moments of quiet are all around us – but we need to tune in to where these moments are. Turn off the tv, just for a moment – mute the sound during the ad breaks; take your earpods out and stare out the window; lift your eyes from the screen as you drink your coffee. Just take a quiet moment. Practicing stillness, quiet, and silence, grows a sacred space within that resonates with the Spirit's presence in us. So, let's pause to be still; to breathe slowly, to re-centre our scattered senses upon the presence of God.⁴

Denise Stephenson



Denise Stephenson is a Spiritual Director and Retreat Leader, who completed her formation training at Wellspring Centre (Melbourne) in 2000. She continues to practice as a Spiritual Director, leads prayer days, retreats and workshops, focused on introducing contemplative spirituality and practice to those who have not experienced it.

She has attended LifeWay Baptist Church for most of her life, being part of the Leadership team for many years, working as Office Manager, and then as Pastor for Spiritual Formation 2018-2020.

Since moving to Lymington in the Huon Valley in 2021, Denise and her husband Mark (in partnership with LifeWay Baptist Church) are exploring growing a community of faith centred round their Long Table, food, hospitality and contemplative practice.

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1. *Lectio 365 app* <https://www.24-7prayer.com/resource/lectio-365/>
 2. *Henri J. M. Nouwen*
 3. *Margaret Silf, Taste and See: Adventuring into Prayer, Darton Longman and Todd, London, 2000pp10-11.*
 4. *Lectio 365 app*
-

Prison Ministry



Whatever you did for one of the least of these . . .

Prison Ministry

Cameron Brett is the Tasmanian Ministry Coordinator for Prison Fellowship Australia.



The work Cameron does in Jesus' name within our prison system is a testament to God's goodness and faithfulness to even the forgotten ones in our state.

Read on to find out about his work, his passions, his heart for prisoners, and how you can support him.

Hello! My name is Cameron Brett, and I am the Ministry Coordinator of Prison Fellowship Tasmania. I have been a Prison Chaplain with Anglican Health and Welfare (3 days/week) for two years. And with Prison Fellowship (2 days/week) for one year.

I was born in Brisbane and am a proud Queenslander! I loved growing up in Brisbane, where I attended Church since birth. Firstly, at Sandgate Baptist, and then Bracken Ridge Baptist Church where my family and I were Foundation Members.

My father and stepmother are still active members of Bracken Ridge Baptist which is now a large contemporary Church. I loved the warm temperatures in Brisbane, especially those cooling summer storms following a hot summer day. It was great to be close to beaches and I enjoyed the busy lifestyle of a medium sized city.

After eight years working with Westpac Bank, I studied at the then Baptist Theological College of Queensland, now Malyon College, training as a Baptist Minister. I was ordained as a Queensland

Baptist minister in 1999. I then served as Associate Pastor at Moore Park Baptist Church, then Majestic Park Baptist Church.

My father, sisters and their families continue to live in Brisbane. We moved to Hobart to be closer to Karen's family in 2010. During this time in Tasmania, I have ministered as a High School Chaplain until the Lord called me into Prison Ministry as a Chaplain in 2020 with Anglican Health & Welfare.

The call to Tasmania

My wife, Karen, and I are blessed with four adult children. Three are now married and all are living around Hobart and active in different churches. Karen home-schooled our children for varying lengths of time. They have all now gone on to university, with the three eldest working in their chosen fields.

When our children were younger, we sensed God's call to school chaplaincy. So we packed up and moved to Tasmania when I was appointed full-time Chaplain at Montrose Bay High. Later I served as Chaplain at Jordon River Learning Federation Senior School. Finally, I was chaplain at Elizabeth College. All this, over a period of ten years.

These days, my focus is with Prison Fellowship Tasmania. It is a volunteer-based missionary organisation which seeks to reach men and women for Jesus, who are incarcerated in Tasmania, by sharing the Gospel with them.

"I spend the majority of my time inside the Prison listening to inmates about whatever is on their mind."

Cameron Brett

Being a Prison Chaplain

I spend the majority of my time during the week, inside the Prison listening to, and talking with, inmates about whatever is on their minds. I also help them with any spiritual matters. There are very few things prisoners have control over in their lives. So, for them to choose to speak with me, is a real privilege.

More broadly, I prepare messages and presentations, speaking at churches around Tasmania who want to know more, and support, Prison Fellowship. We have a fantastic team of volunteers, whom I work with to run Chapel Services in most Tasmanian Prison facilities. As well we run as Christian programs such as *The Prisoner's Journey* and *Alpha*. Because I am a Prison Chaplain and PF Ministry Coordinator, I assist Prison Fellowship volunteers from inside the Prison.

Also, I help bless children of inmates by providing birthday and



Christmas gifts to those who participate in our *Angel Tree* program. I assist other volunteers by facilitating their visits with inmates, write letters or provide post-release support to men and women who request help.

As a Prison Chaplain, I see how Prison Fellowship volunteers encourage inmates who request a visit. Prison is a very lonely place, especially as most inmate's family don't want anything to do with them once they are incarcerated.

A question of TRUST

Many prisoners receive no contact from friends or family. I've witnessed how unconditional love and acceptance from a Prison Fellowship volunteer can powerfully provide the basis for open, caring but frank conversations. The kind which inmates can't have with other prisoners, nor prison staff.

I enjoy sitting with inmates and listening to their stories – not so much about their crime, as most don't talk about that. Instead, it is about their family, where they grew up and what they hope to achieve upon their release.

Once I gain an inmate's trust, and that I am interested in them and not their crime, they begin to open up. They can then share what is on their heart. This is a rare and valuable opportunity, because for many inmates, it is difficult for them to trust anyone inside, or outside, the prison.

Representing Jesus

I see myself as Jesus' representative in the Prison. Being 'present' with inmates enables me to share God's love and acceptance with them. I regularly share (not preach) with inmates how God sees any crime as sin, and that we are all sinners in God's eyes. And that none are any worse than others, and how forgiveness is available to all who truly turn from their old ways. Accepting that Jesus has paid the penalty for our sin, enables us to be free, on the inside. Even though inmates are required to pay the earthly penalty for their sins, their heavenly Father will accept them as His children when they ask for His forgiveness – and that's the forgiveness which counts, which truly sets us free, to be the person God designed each of us to be.

The best advice I have is to "Treat everyone with respect". When visiting people in prison, I remind myself that "there but for the grace of God, go I".

Honestly, we are all sinners and all deserving of God's judgement. Acknowledging this helps me to respect each one I talk with, regardless of their crime or the length of their sentence.

When you show respect for an individual, I find they reciprocate that respect to you.



Love, care and support

My primary responsibility is to visit with inmates. As well, I coordinate with the Tasmanian Prison Service for volunteers to enter (and exit!) the prison. The volunteers then minister to men and women by running *The Prisoner's Journey*, *Alpha* and our Chapel Services.

I also arrange to visit churches, seeking to share with them the work of Prison Fellowship. I share how Tasmanian churches can be involved in ministering to fellow Tasmanians in prison and their families in the community. This can be done either by financially supporting the work, or volunteering with Prison Fellowship Tasmania.

Volunteers assist in our Chapel Services, visit with inmates, help wrap and deliver gifts at birthday and Christmastime, or cover our programs and people with prayer. If you would like to volunteer, I'd love to talk with you about where you sense the Lord is leading you to serve.

Bringing hope, in Jesus' name

We have some fantastic resources such as *The Prisoner's Journey* which is a video- based group discussion program, based on *Christianity Explored*, developed specifically for prisoners. the Angel Tree program seeks to bless the children and families of inmates by providing a gift at Christmas and birthdays. However, all these resources cost money to develop, facilitate and promote.

That's why I visit with churches and other groups to share with them how they can partner with Prison Fellowship Tasmania by volunteering or financially supporting our work.

I'm excited that I can help empower ordinary Christian men and women to be God's messengers of hope and love to people in our Prisons, who receive very little love, attention or care from others.

Many inmates have lost hope. I find that so sad because without hope, what do you have? Simply, daily existence. I, and we as Christians, can be God's Presence in our prisons and thus bring hope. Hope is powerful. Hope is life- changing. We have hope in Jesus – it's our responsibility to share that hope with those who have no hope.

You can bring hope by visiting with or writing to prisoners. Or by supporting them upon release. Or if you're unable to do that, at least financially support those who are caring for "the least of these".



*Whatever you did for
one of the least of these
brothers and sisters of
mine, you did for Me.*

Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

**“Many inmates have lost hope.”
Cameron Brett**

Prison life

I am most challenged by the idea that I am working in a prison! Prior to working as a Prison Chaplain, I had no idea what a prison looked, or felt like, inside. Like most people, I had little experience with the courts or prison sentencing.

As a high school chaplain, I had at least supported two or three students who appeared before Juvenile Justice. But now, I seek to share God's love, mercy and forgiveness with people who have done some very bad things. Yet, it's not I but Christ in me, who demonstrates God loves every one of them. And so should we.

Pray for Cameron and the prison ministry

Every day I am conscious that I enter a prison facility. As a Chaplain, I am privileged to enter into an inmate's space. Please support me by praying for my safety, and for me to have God's Words to share. I've seen the power of a God-given, timely, kind word. We can change people's lives because, for many, they are hanging on at the very end of their rope. Please pray our volunteers will continue their easy access to the prison to meet with inmates in the Visitor's Centre. This is especially true with Covid still threatening our community.

Will you join me in responding to Jesus' words, "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me." Matthew 25:40

We are looking to increase our team of volunteers to mentor men and women after they are released from prison. Can you be a friend to an ex-offender? You could help them navigate public transport, Centrelink or banking options available now. Is so, please get in touch with me via email.

Life these days is complex! Imagine what it is like to be out of touch with these changes over the past five or ten years.

Ask Cameron to Visit Your Church

MORE INFORMATION:

Cameron Brett: cameron.brett@prisonfellowship.org.au

Prison Fellowship: <https://prisonfellowship.org.au/>

ReCharge NEWS

October 2022



ABOVE: Casual photos at the Tasmanian Baptist Annual Assembly October 2021

Baptist Prayer Gathering

ALL WELCOME!

7:45-8:30pm Tuesday 1st November 2022

Zoom Gathering – SIGN UP: www.crossover.org.au/praywithus

🕒 45 mins starting: WA 4.45pm | NT 6.15pm | QLD 6.45pm | SA 7.15pm | AEDT 7.45pm

∞

**AUSTRALIAN
BAPTIST
PRAYER
GATHERING.**

NOV 1ST 2022
7.45PM AEDT

Join us via Zoom to pray for Australians and people all around the world to meet Jesus. Special focus on those facing natural disaster, famine and war.

Sign up at crossover.org.au/praywithus

EmpowHer: morning tea and walk



All
Women
Welcome

A network of women growing and encouraging each other in their God-given potential.

Due to poor weather, our walk to Pig Island and coffee catch up afterward was cancelled.

However, we have rescheduled and would love for you to.....

**Join with us for morning tea
at Monclair of Latrobe.**

Saturday 12th November

10am

Monclair of Latrobe
and Madame M Cafe.
(78 Gilbert Street Latrobe)

For more info or to register,
contact Gabrielle Fife
on 0421 434138

Please register by
8th November



Tasmanian
BAPTIST WOMEN

Marrawah Baptist to Close

End of an Era

For several years now, the small fellowship who gather at Marrawah Baptist Church have been operating on Sundays on an irregular basis. More recently, most of the congregation have shifted to Smithton, and are now attending the Baptist church there. Now, the membership has decided it is time to permanently close their doors.

A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Marrawah Baptist to say farewell, and celebrate all the years of work and mission that has taken place through this fellowship.

STAY POSTED!

Final service details will soon be confirmed, for early 2023.

PICTURED: Rodney Marshall and Michael Henderson (behind camera) recently met with the Marrawah leadership team to plan the best way forward.



Voice of the Martyrs

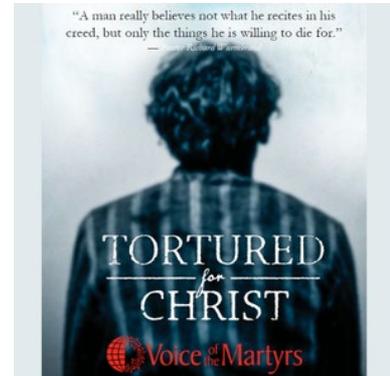
VISITING TASMANIA in November

Come and find out about the persecuted church.

Marcel Enuica is the Regional Relationship Manager (Vic/Tas) for Voice of the Martyrs and will be visiting Tasmania in November. See *dates and venues, below.*

The exceptional movie *Tortured for Christ* will be shown at each venue. Watch the trailer: <https://youtu.be/fxNp7BYpMO0>

Tea/coffee will be provided. People will also have the chance to receive a complimentary book from Voice of the Martyrs Australia. Range of books here: <https://vom.com.au/shop-resources/>



For more information, please contact Marcel: menuica@vom.com.au | +61 457 689 169

Devonport

Devonport VOM Fellowship/Movie Night –
Tortured for Christ
WHERE: 156 Steele St, Devonport 7310
WHEN: 6-8pm, Friday 11th November

Deloraine

Deloraine VOM Fellowship/Movie Night –
Tortured for Christ
WHERE: 46 Parsonage St, Deloraine 7304
WHEN: 6-8pm, Wednesday 16th November

Launceston

Launceston VOM Fellowship/Movie Night –
Tortured for Christ
WHERE: 14 Wentworth St, Newstead 7250
WHEN: 6-8pm, Tuesday 15th November

Hobart

Hobart VOM Fellowship/Movie Night –
Tortured for Christ
WHERE: 8 Goulburn St, Hobart 7000
WHEN: 6-8pm, Friday 18th November

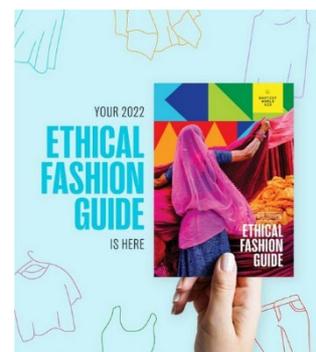
Ethical Fashion Guide

Available 17th October!

Baptist World Aid's Ethical Fashion Guide and Report reveals how brands are going at ensuring their supply chains are ethical, and sustainable.

BWA want to give you meaningful information on your favourite brands, so you're equipped to assess your shopping habits and ask brands to do better. That's why they've made a few changes to the Guide this year:

- A wider range of **footwear companies** in the Ethical Fashion Guide and Report, shining a light on shoe production practices.
- Each company's **score out of 100**, instead of the previous A to F grade, giving you even more transparency over how your favourite brand performs.



The Gift of Transformation

For families living in poverty this Christmas

Australians across the country are being encouraged to think differently as they purchase gifts this Christmas. Giving the gift of food security, clean water, the transformative power of an education, or mum and baby essentials for mothers living in poverty has been made possible as Compassion Australia release their annual 'Gifts of Compassion' gift giving guide.

The range of gifts offer an ethical alternative for Australians to give to family and friends this Christmas season while giving the gift of transformation to those living in poverty.

Individuals can select from more than two dozen gifts, so there is something for all budgets. For each gift purchased, the supporter will receive a card to give to their loved ones.

CEO of Compassion Australia, Clare Steele, says, "A food security gift is undoubtedly the most urgent need at present. The compounding effects of the war in Ukraine, COVID-19, inflation, and extreme weather events are driving up food costs and leading to supply shortages around the world.

Giving a gift of Compassion is as easy as three simple steps:

1. Choose a gift on Compassion Australia's website: <https://www.compassion.com.au/>
2. Receive a beautiful card, either in print or via email for each gift
3. Make an impact with the gift for children and families living in poverty



Free Mental Health Webinars

FOR THOSE IN MINISTRY

7:30-9pm, Mondays 10th and 17th October

Church leaders, staff and pastoral volunteers are often a primary contact for their congregation and local community when life gets hard. So now, more than ever, churches need support to healthily manage the increasing pastoral load and needs of individuals.

These free online webinars, run by Christian Counsellors Association of Australia, will give people in ministry the tools and strategies for implementing good mental health care in their churches.

The presenter, Rev Bill Van Schie, has been in pastoral ministry for over 36 years and is also a registered Clinical Counsellor and Supervisor in private practice.

- **10th Oct:** Mental health first aid for churches and volunteers
- **17th Oct:** Who cares for the carers in ministry?



Millions Face Famine

Severe drought has devastated the Horn of Africa

While it's not being reported regularly in the mainstream news, there is an unparalleled hunger crisis happening right now, one many Australians don't seem to know about.

Baptist World Aid is teaming up with the Emergency Action Alliance, both to thank the Australian Government for its recent commitment to funds, and to call for support from Australians in response.

Baptist World Aid reports:

- 4.7 million children in Ethiopia under age five face acute malnutrition; Almost ten million livestock have died throughout Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia;
- 4.1 million people in Kenya and 7.1 million in Somalia are food insecure.



READ ABOUT THE FAMINE OR ASSIST FINANCIALLY >

<https://emergencyaction.org.au/hunger-crisis>

Annual Assembly, 2022

Friday/Saturday 28/29th October

Riverlands, 159 Wellington St, Longford 7301

Official forms and papers for the next Tasmanian Baptist Assembly are due to be emailed to Secretaries on Friday 30th September. Delegates from each church and ex-officio (pastors and Tas Baptist Council) members are able to vote. Others are also welcome (no voting rights).

Friday night dinner: \$30/person Saturday Lunch: \$15/person

Please contact your Church Secretary for more information.



PICTURED: Attendees at the Oct '21 Assembly.

Women's World Day of Prayer

A Global Prayer Movement | Monday, November 7, 2022 (or other day)

For more than 70 years, sisters in Christ have united in prayer for the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer hosted by Baptist World Alliance Women. Please join in as women gather to pray this year in homes, churches, and communities around the world!

The 2022 theme is "Victorious Life" drawn from the truth of 2 Corinthians 2:14.

"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in the triumph of Christ, and through us reveals the fragrance of the knowledge of him in every place." 2 Corinthians 2:14



COME
TO A VENUE NEAR YOU
PRAY
AS A COMMUNITY OF WOMEN
GIVE
TO BAPTIST WOMEN'S PROJECTS

This year, Day of Prayer events are popping up around Tasmania! You can participate in one of the already planned events, or host your own. **It's also a great opportunity to financially contribute to Baptist projects supporting women in smaller nations.**

Day of Prayer (Northwest) 10am, Saturday 22nd October, Ulverstone Baptist Church.

Day of Prayer (South) 2pm, Saturday 22nd October, Claremont Baptist Church.

FIND OUT MORE!

WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER: <https://baptist.lpages.co/2022-day-of-prayer>

OR

CONTACT: Jenny Baxter jenny@tasbaptists.org.au

Tasmanian

BAPTISTS

