

December 2020
Issue 141

The Next Step

Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)

**Canberra
Aboriginal Church**

Physical CAC services
are likely to resume in February



Wishing you a Happy, Holy Christmas and a New Year full of God's blessings

2020 has been a memorable year - one perhaps we would like to leave behind and forget.

Despite the disruptions to our 'normal' lives, God has used this year to draw us closer to Him, to teach us new ways of relating to each other, to give us opportunity to witness to Him and to serve the community in His name.

God's people have maintained fellowship with each other, supported each other and demonstrated His love in practical ways. God's work has continued, adapting to changed conditions and shown that our God stays close even in difficult times.

Fires, smoke, disease, floods, loss and hardship have touched many lives this year. Many have struggled as a result, however it has been encouraging to see the faith of God's people sustain them and enable them to provide a helping hand to others.

It will be interesting to discover what God has in store for us in 2021.

Coming Services

We meet at **Holy Trinity Finnish Lutheran Church, Cnr. Gould and Watson Streets, Turner**



**Rev. Dr.
Campbell
Egan**



**Mr. Mark
Warren**

Sunday 20th December at 5pm – Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan

Sunday 27th December at 5pm – Mr. Mark Warren

Services over recent weeks have included the following:



Mrs. Joyce Hall



Rev. Bob Prior



Rev. Paul Tabulutu

Sunday **29th November** at 5pm - **Mrs. Joyce Hall** - The Lord is my Shepherd
Sunday **6th December** at 5pm - **Rev. Bob Prior** - Let your needs cause you to pray
Sunday **13th December** at 5pm - **Rev. Paul Tabulutu** - The power of the Christian message

Prayer Points Please pray for the Aboriginal Church just as they are praying for us.

Please pray

- for Aboriginal communities all over Australia.
- and give thanks for new translations of scripture available to people in Arnhem Land.
- for leaders, doctors and ministers.
- for revival - that people will seek the Lord.
- for the elderly, and for each other.
- for Peter undergoing an operation to replace a pacemaker battery in late January.

and give thanks for the Canberra Aboriginal Church virtual gatherings using ZOOM for around 40 minutes each Sunday from 5pm. - A time of fellowship, worship and delving into God's Word.

The Canberra Aboriginal Church service resumption date is most likely the first Sunday in February.



At our Annual General Meeting we agreed to send donations to support the work of causes we regularly support. The following are some of the responses we have received.

Tim Collison of Leprosy Mission rang to thank us for our donation and more recently emailed :-

I hope all the folk at Canberra Christian Fellowship are doing well.

I wanted to say thank you. I will be finishing up at The Leprosy Mission in January.

I have so appreciated being able to come up to Canberra, and the effort the church and community have gone into supporting people affected by leprosy.

It has been very encouraging to me.

God bless and have a merry Christmas,

Tim Collison | *Engagement Manager*



Mr. Tim Collison



This morning we received our financial statement from SIM for the month of November. It shows the donation of \$250 from the Canberra Christian Fellowship. We want to say siyabonga kakhulu (thank you so much) for your wonderful support in partnering with us in our ministry at iKhetelo Children's Village. Please pass on our thanks and appreciation to all at Canberra Christian Fellowship.

Ian, thank you for sending us The Next Step. It helps us stay connected.

Blessings

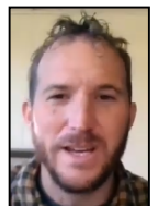
David, Janenne & Rachel



Dan Pennington, Relationship Manager at Compassion, was in Canberra for a couple of days.

Ian was able to meet with him.

Dan was very interested in our Fellowship and grateful for the support we have been able to give Compassion. He is keen to visit us and is praying for us.



Mr. Daniel Pennington



Dear Brothers and Sisters at Canberra Christian Fellowship, Greetings! We hope that you are all well. Thank you sincerely for your kind donation of \$250 to Fair Dinkum LIFE that we received after returning from a regional SA ministry trip last week. Your support is much needed and is a real encouragement to us - thank you! Sharing face to face and travelling to people is foundational to Fair Dinkum LIFE's purpose. We are grateful to God for the opportunities that He has opened for us to serve in South Australia at churches and schools during COVID 19 restrictions

throughout the year. This included preaching at regional and rural churches including an Aboriginal Church in Port Augusta, where we seek to provide additional support as our relationship grows with the community. We also conducted numerous student workshops in both primary and secondary schools in SA. Additionally, we were also able to use online technology to provide one week of teaching at Capernwray Australia, a Bible College in the southern highlands of NSW.

Thank you again for your encouragement and support which enables Fair Dinkum LIFE to help churches and schools throughout Australia. The following page includes some photos for your interest and information from our service throughout 2020.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2021, assuming Corona virus continues to remain well controlled and suppressed, particularly in SA, NSW and ACT.

God bless you all,
Peter and Desleigh Wright, Volunteers
Fair Dinkum LIFE Ltd



Mike from Mission Aviation Fellowship recently rang to thank us for our donation and not long after we got the "Purdey Pages" from the Purdeys in Madagascar.

Manahoana!

Firstly we want to say a big THANKYOU to everyone who has supported us in each and every way this year. It has been a huge year for us and we are very conscious that it has been a rollercoaster year of challenges, uncertainty and grief for so many around the world. We pray that it has also been a year of growth, meaningfulness, and a deeper stability and trust in our true eternal hope, Jesus. ...

Needless to say, flying during a pandemic has brought many changes. There have been periods of no flights at all, periods of nearly constant activity and everything in between. In all though we have seen flying drop to about half of our budgeted hours in Madagascar. While this is hard to see, we are still grateful for the flights we have been able to operate and are thankful that we can continue to fly during this time.

Recent highlights include: vaccine runs to 8 communities, 2 medical evacuations, moving 2 missionary families to their new field locations, taking a health team and equipment to a remote region for a week's consults and surgeries and also operating our shuttle run flights. ...

We have made a little video of life here in Madagascar [we hope to show this at a service soon] It is also a small way to say thankyou so much again for your ongoing care and support of what we do here. We are so thankful for you all. Have a safe and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to sharing with you again in the new year.

Love and God bless,
Ian, Adele, Jimmy, Edward, Josiah and Theo



Thank you for your recent donation to CBM, your support of vulnerable people is needed more now than ever and we can't thank you enough for your generosity. ... Hoping you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. Thank you again for your generosity and understanding.

Yours faithfully
CBM Australia



Dear Christian Friends

Thank you very much for your kind gift to our "Gift Catalogue" appeal. God bless and thank you once again for your partnership in our ministry. Your gift has been designated to: **Gift Catalogue \$ 250.00**

Kind Regards,

Leonard Parson

Financial Officer

Mission Without Borders



Ashley

We have heard that Ashley recently spent some time in hospital with Meningitis. She is now back to better health.



Outreach in Young



The university FOCUS group recently organised an outreach group of young people (as they have done previously) to travel to Young, NSW, to mix with local people and help with various tasks. On this occasion Sharon and Ruth were a part of the group with Kelly joining them for a shorter time. Their activities were more limited than previously due to COVID restrictions. Sharon encouraged us during a recent service by reporting on that outreach and telling us how the team was able to interact with locals, participate in various activities and express their faith.

An Indonesian Connection

Uti is stranded here in Australia for now (due to COVID) with her son-in-law Norman and his family. She has shared a picture of her church family back in Surabaya, Java, Indonesia with us.



Uti's home church



Grandson **Yosia Imanuel**
Son **Bayu Primbodo**
Daughter-in-law **Pastor Maria Magdalena**
Grandson **Rafael Wiliam**



Our congregation on 29-11-2020. Standing L to R: **Uti, Katherine, Trish, Wendy** (behind), **Joyce, Norma, Ann** (behind), **Laurie** (behind), **Marie, Denis, Coral, Joan, Vince**. Crouching: **Ian**. Sitting L to R: **Cassandra, Norman, Jonathan, Ruth, Kelly**.



Christine Sloane of the Aboriginal Church is thrilled to have become a Grandmother.

Cowen Allan Andre was born around 10 days ago to Chris's daughter.

He is a very welcome addition to the family

Contacts

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Chaplains

Mr. Owen Chadwick - Universities chaplaincy

Rev. Bob Prior - Racecourse chaplaincy

Rev. Paul Tabulutu - N.S.W. / A.C.T. Fijian churches

Please remember Owen, Bob, Paul and their work in your prayers.

