



Prayer Update No. 24 - Summer 2016/17

Dear Friends

Let us praise our mighty God for all his goodness! We should like to thank all you faithful pray-ers who provide ANeW with prayer cover throughout the year. You are such a treasure to us and we pray that God will bless every one of you throughout the coming year, as you bless us through your prayer commitment to ANeW. And at this very special time of year, may you all know joy and peace as you celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus, our saviour. Dianne

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16

MONDAY **CHURCH LIFE IN GENERAL**

The Diocese of Newcastle

Both the Bishop (Greg Thompson) and the Business Manager (John Cleary) are on personal leave following the Royal Commission hearings. This has an effect on Arthur's Diocesan work and also his half time Archdeacon role.

Please pray

- for Bishop Peter Stuart, the Assistant Bishop, as he leads the Diocese over the next few months.

On a personal level for Arthur, it has been a long and tiring year with only one week's annual leave. The Copeman's are taking three weeks leave immediately after Christmas and are very much looking forward to that.

Please pray

- that we would be built up through this break ready for next year.

The Parishes of New Lambton and ANeW are working together more and more in a Network of ministry. This is providing more and more blessings with Sunday being a Prayer Book Communion Service at 8.30am, 10.30am at New Lambton and 5pm at Lambton.

Please pray - that the church arrangements would continue to allow for the ministry to be developed.

Praise and thank God for

- the staff team at New Lambton and ANeW.
- the appointment of Rick De Sousa as the treasurer for the New Lambton side of the ministry.
- the three and a half years of ministry of Bruce and Carol Hunter to the original New Lambton congregations and **pray** that God would be with them in retirement.
- five years' of ministry of Cathy Young to ANeW and New Lambton.
- the appointment of Michael Marklew (married to Alison, with children Abigail, Samuel and Lily) who was ordained Deacon on December 9th and is joining the staff team in a half time capacity from January 1st. Michael has been a student with us over the last eighteen months and he will be assisting across the ministry in a range of capacities.
- the appointment of Kate Rogers as a quarter time paid women's minister. Kate has been assisting in a number of ways and now joins the staff.
- the appointment of Teresa Charchalis to assist with graphic design, web design and administration.

Please pray

- that the staff team would work well together in promoting the Gospel through ANeW and New Lambton.
- for wisdom for Arthur as he leads a growing staff team.
- that God would raise up all the funds needed to support the ministry in 2017.

- that all our ministries would continue to be a blessing to the Diocese of Newcastle.
- for our Prayer Breakfast on Sat 4th February. We are planning to hold these every two months.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendour is above the earth and the heavens. Ps 148:13

TUESDAY **YOUNG ADULTS' MINISTRY - Adam Matthews**

Another year has finished and the young adults' ministry is winding down for the year. It is sad to see a number of people moving away to begin new jobs in new places next year but it has been a joy to be with them at ANeW.

Praise God for:

- the dedicated leaders of young adults' bible studies who week in, week out lead and serve others as they teach the Bible.
- the servant hearted young adults who serve in music, kids' ministry, service leading etc.
- the manuscript discovery term we have just completed on Mark's gospel - we have all learnt things about Mark's work and the gospel of God that we have not seen before.

Please pray for:

- the provision of new leaders for next year as some of our leaders are moving away.
- the relationships in our groups to continue to grow closer, that we might encourage one another more and more and seek to serve each other well.
- wisdom to know how we might best engage Newcastle with what Jesus has done for them.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!' Isaiah 52:7

WEDNESDAY **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - Amy Soutter**

Children's Ministry at ANeW includes Crèche and Preschool ministries, KFC, Time Out and SRE.

Time Out is our playgroup with kids and Mums in separate programs. This term our focus has been Christmas.

Praise and thanks for:

- Answered prayer in the growth of Time Out.
- Fantastic carers and children settling in.

Prayer for:

- More carers for Time Out in 2016.
- Wisdom as we look to create a second group.

Crèche and Preschool Ministries teach our under 5's at the 10:30.

They were established as separate groups in term 3 this year.

Praise and thanks for:

- Faithful and proactive leaders at Crèche and Preschool.
- Children attending more consistently.

Prayer for:

- Wise use of spaces in the building and future plans.
- Children growing in their love for God.

K F C is our ministry to children at the 5pm service. This group is constantly evolving as the children grow up and move up in the junior high group.

Praise and thanks for:

- Joelle, Heidi and Shanalle's leading at KFC over many years. For God's direction for their future.
- Committed mature leaders who are influencing the lives of our children for God's glory.

Prayer for:

- Adapting the program to serve the kids in our care as they grow and mature.

General

Praise and thanks for:

- Andrea and Tim's preparation and presentation of training for our children's ministry teams
- SRE teachers who continue to spread the news of Jesus.

Prayer for:

- Leaders to enjoy a refreshing break over the holidays.
- Updating and implementing safe ministry practices.
- Foresight to manage expanding ministry opportunities.

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Psalm 95:2

THURSDAY **TEEN MINISTRY - Anabelle Copeman**

It has been a busy year for Arthur and myself, both personally and in ministry. We have celebrated a wedding and our first 2 grandchildren being born. We praise God for our family. Our youngest, Andrew, and his wife are moving to Sydney in January to start at Moore College. More trips to Sydney!!!

The morning school age ministry has grown and, with more children entering high school next year, so has the youth ministry. A number of our youth and children leaders are moving on next year, so we are relying on God to provide the leaders we need to keep growing our ministries. Shanalle has finished at Year 13. It has been a privilege to mentor her this year. She is moving to Sydney to do MTS with Youthworks and be involved in a church plant.

Praise God

- for Shanalle and the wonderful ministry she has had among us this year.
- that we have been able to start a new group for senior high girls on Sunday afternoons before church.
- for Sam Chiswell and his leadership of the Friday night youth team. He will continue next year.
- that so many of our teens came to the weekend away and bonded as a group.

Please Pray for

- God to provide the leaders we need to keep running youth and children's ministry well.
- wisdom to know how to best structure youth ministry next year.
- our teens; that they will embrace the gospel and be keen to disciple others.
- the preparation of Christmas services and the proclamation of the gospel over the next month. I am working with Amy on all age services.

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom. Ps 145:3

FRIDAY **WOMEN'S MINISTRY ASSISTANT- Cathy Young**

We have much for which to praise and thank our mighty God who never ceases to amaze.

Praise and thank God for

- a great final week at Time Out and Bible Study - lots of encouragements.

- the recent mission - lots of not yet Christians heard about Jesus' offer of salvation.
- Kate Rogers joining us one and a half days per week to do women's ministry amongst the 5pm Congregation - please uphold her in prayer as she seeks to grow people in Jesus.
- Teresa Charchalis joining us one day a week to do social media, website maintenance & administration.

Please pray

- for the three women who did Simply Christianity - that God might work in their hearts and minds.
- for the two women who were learning how to run Simply Christianity - that they might grow in their confidence and ability to run an evangelistic Bible Study.
- for the up and coming Christmas events.
- for a good break for me over the holiday period.
- for wisdom of what to say yes or no to.
- that we will start well in February across all of the ministries.
- that I will love my family well.
- that the Lord will be glorified as ANeW seeks to love Him, love one another and love the lost.

For he will command his Angels concerning you, to keep you in all your ways. Ps 91:11

If at any stage, you are praying for ANeW and would like an update on prayer points,
you are welcome to email Dianne at: ddouglass83@gmail.com