



Dear Friends

Where would we have been, without God, our heavenly father during this Covid 19 pandemic? The freedoms we take for granted have been sorely compromised during these challenging months. Thank God, that here in Australia things are not as bad as they might have been thanks to strong leadership and the prayers of many. And now, at last, as the impact of the pandemic diminishes, our recovery is underway. We hope you and your loved ones are faring well.

Blessings to you all. Dianne

Cast your burden on the LORD, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved. Psalm 55:22

MONDAY : All Saints ANeW overview – Arthur Copeman

I feel like I have had to learn a new role over the last three months. So much of church life has been about technology. In the midst of that, All Saints ANeW has continued on, via zoom and Facebook.

The zoom links can be found at <http://www.anew.org.au/church-online/>

We do at this time appreciate prayer more than ever.

Praise

- the many wonderful acts of kindness that members of our church have given to each other.
- the perseverance of our church musicians to keep us praising God at this time.
- the generosity of our church to keep financially supporting ministry at this time.
- his goodness to us in Australia that Covid has so far not affected that many people.
- those in church who have assisted us with the technology.
- those from our traditional Sunday Communion service, who have happily zoomed in to a different style of church at times they were not used to.
- his goodness to us in giving us his Word in the Bible, so that even though we are socially isolated, we can still hear God speak to us!

Prayer

- that this might be a time of people coming to know Jesus.
- that as restrictions ease, we might have wisdom as to how to re-instate church programmes.
- for wisdom for me to lead in a godly way as we move forward as a church.
- for the right time for each of our pastoral team to have a break.
- for wisdom as we continue to discuss the way forward with renovating our buildings.
- that we would be a more humble and prayerful church.
- for our Bishop, Peter Stuart, as he seeks to be a wise leader in these times.

TUESDAY : ASSISTANT MINISTER—Sam Broadfoot

As with everyone else, the changing health guidelines and restrictions has meant re-shaping many of the ministries I'm involved in. Amidst the quickly changing context, I would appreciate prayers for clear, slow and deliberate thought, to provide clear leadership to those I am called to love and lead.

Prayer

Through June we're running an evangelistic course called **KNOWING JESUS** *and the difference he makes to life.*

- Beg God to give our church love and boldness to invite our friends and family.
- Pray that these people would come eager to hear of the eternal security that Jesus offers.
- Ask God to ease restrictions further in Australia, so our Growth Groups can meet and encourage one another face to face. In particular, pray for those who were Zoomed out and didn't connect as easily with online Growth Groups.
- Pray for the youth and youth-leaders to persevere in this season of saturated screen-time. May those who transitioned to Online Youth continue to spur one another on, and give us wisdom to care for those who didn't transition online.

WEDNESDAY : YOUNG ADULTS' MINISTRY—Adam Matthews

Despite the difficulties of meeting together and the potential for disengaging, many in our Young Adults group have continued to meet in various ways.

Praise

- Praise God for a young man who has recently professed faith. Pray for those who have been closely ministering to him that this can continue.
- Praise God for those who are meeting over Zoom to keep praying with one another and encouraging one another.

Prayer

- especially for those who for various reasons cannot or would rather not join us online for church or Bible study. Pray that they would be sustained in their trust in Jesus.
- for those who are seeking to share the gospel with friends, neighbours, workmates during this time. New occasions present themselves at this time that wouldn't otherwise occur.
- for those who do have more time at home with family that this would be a fruitful and encouraging time that grows them in love.

WEDNESDAY cont'd: CHILDREN'S MINISTRY—Amy Soutter

Same, same but different is a phrase used of this current situation. We are still teaching children through God's word about his amazing Son Jesus and we are definitely only doing it through the power of His Spirit. What is different is the medium we are using and with this difference comes new challenges: learning new skills; being one extra step ahead; loving people while being at a distance. It has been exhausting for everyone. But our God is the same yesterday, today and forever. It would be wonderful if you would uphold these things amongst the many things you are praying.

Praise for

- Leader's stepping up: zooming kid's programs; modifying materials for use at home; connecting with children via mail outs; connecting with kid's appropriately with social media.
- Church members using their tech skills to present Kid's Talks.
- People assisting delivering packs to children and families.

Pray for

- Children who are missing connecting with one another.
- Families under pressure with having children at home, work and financial stressors, and anxiety in the current climate.
- Wisdom to continue adapting as circumstances change, and insight into how to support our children and families.

THURSDAY : Anabelle Copeman

This has been a strange time of adapting ministry to our present circumstances. Learning new technology skills has been challenging but so rewarding. I have been so encouraged by the take up on zoom of the older people in the Retirees' group. They have worked so hard to stay connected. I have had increased family responsibilities, so my ministry involvement has been cut back a little.

Praise

- for the perseverance of the Monday Retirees group. We continue to meet weekly. At the moment we are following the sermon series in Ezekiel.
- the Monday leadership team who are working hard to stay in touch with everyone, especially those not on the internet.

Prayer

- for wisdom to know when and how the Monday group can start meeting again in person.
- that my tech skills will continue to improve to better serve the ministry, including doing zoom kids church.
- that I would get the right balance between ministry and family.

FRIDAY : WOMEN'S MINISTRY ASSISTANT 5pm—Kate Rogers 5

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. (1 John 3:16)

Praise and Thanks

- Virtual technology and personal commitment that have given our Growth Groups the ability to stay connected; to spend time “with” each other in the Word and in prayer and to encourage and support each other through changing and challenging times.
- TimeOut families being loved and blessed with Easter and Mothers' Day packages, and Meals-with-a-Bible (courtesy of the Bible Society and Cru Food 2 U). These families have responded very positively to the Christian Care and content they have received.
- Financial, practical and prayerful support that has been made available to the Care Ministry as people have had [opportunity to show concern with generosity and care](#). (Phil 4:14-19)
- Book Club via Zoom enabled a good number of us to prayerfully and helpfully discuss ‘*Together Through the Storm*’ by Sally Sims - a Biblical and Practical Guide to Christian Care—from the comfort of our own homes on a cold wet night!

Prayer

- Wisdom in how and when to return to meeting together across different ministries.
- TimeOut ladies who have been invited to the Knowing Jesus course in June.
- The newly formalised Care Ministry (care@anew.org.au) - that God will guide and provide wisdom and resources to love and serve each other and our neighbours well, not just during the Covid-19 pandemic, but beyond.
- Each other! What is never restricted for any of us is prayer. Something we would like to formalise and co-ordinate more is a Prayer Chain. If you would like to be involved in prayer ministry that way, please contact Dianne Douglass. (If you don't have her contact details, just email [care @anew](mailto:care@anew) and we'll put you in touch).

SATURDAY: OUTREACH and 10am SERVICE—Beck Bishop

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Gal. 5: 22-25.

Praise and thanks

- Give thanks for the opportunity to run a Knowing Jesus course as a Church and to invite our friends, family, neighbours, etc.
- The wonderful way so many of the Church family have jumped in to help with deliveries to people's home during the lock down. Deliveries have been made to Kid's Church families, mainly music, Time Out, elderly Church family members, Ladies Craft Club-Fletcher and other community contacts. Pray that these gifts, meals and notes of encouragement may be used to God's glory.
- Give thanks for the many visitors who have joined us for Church over zoom.
- On a personal note, I am thankful for afternoon walks with Christian friends and friends yet to know Jesus and the encouragement and gospel opportunities they have provided.

Prayer

- for the online Knowing Jesus course over June - for those involved; Sam, Beck and Table leaders - that the participants would soon get used to the zoom format and quickly get to know people involved in the course. For technology, Sam's talks, and visitors actually overcoming anxieties to get there each week. That many might be transformed by Jesus.
- that Growth groups might keep meeting together and growing in Jesus together.
- that more SRE teachers might be raised up and ready to re-enter schools to teach Scripture when the time comes (as there may be restrictions on those over 70).
- for wisdom as to when is the best time to restart face to face; Mainly Music, Ladies Craft Club and other community/outreach activities.

SUNDAY: Michael Marklew—Minister at St Paul's Church, Stockton

Hello Brothers and Sisters. Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and love. I am sure that you all share with us in how difficult the past quarter has been. So many changes and decisions compressed into such a short period has been tiring to say the least. In it all we still continually thank God for his provision and leading and particularly for the encouragement of Paul's letters written from captivity that we have been preaching through.

Please join us in Praise and Thanks

- for God's sovereign rule over everything and that He promises good to those who love Him.
- for Technology that has enabled us to continue to connect with each other and to even reach out into new communities during COVID-19.
- that our teams are in good health, able and willing to step into all the new challenges we face.
- that we are once again gathering in our Church and that the state government has paved the way for larger gatherings.

Please join us in praying

- for an end to the pandemic.
- that technology would work and be reliable, particularly during Sunday services.
- that there would be no outbreaks in our community as we resume Sunday gatherings.
- that all the extra people who have engaged with our online services would come to physical gatherings, be welcomed and be discipled into the community.
- for discernment in the right ministries to resume and the right ministries to keep after lockdown.
- for all the families with young children that have been for the most part left out of Sunday gatherings during lockdown. Please pray that God will lead us in ways to reach them, to re-engage with them as restrictions ease and that they would be receptive.

God bless you and thank you for your prayers.

Your Brother in Christ,
Michael Marklew, Stockton Anglican