



Prayer Update No. 42 Winter 2021

Dear Friends

Your prayers for All Saints ANeW are greatly appreciated. Yes, God already knows all our needs but he loves us to engage with Him and bring our needs before Him. So I thank you for doing this on our behalf. And may you yourselves, know God's richest blessings and His peace at all times. In Jesus' name I bless you and in Jesus' name I declare God's purposes for your lives, and activate those purposes. Sincerely, Dianne.

Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. Jeremiah 29:12

MONDAY : All Saints ANeW Overview - Arthur Copeman

Church life continues as we seek to serve God faithfully, encouraging people to put their faith in Christ and endeavouring to build up those who have done that. Adam Matthews, formally on our Pastoral Team, returned to preaching recently and brought us four sermons on Jonah, from which we all benefited. Then we have tackled the subjects of sexuality (with me preaching) and gender (with Sam preaching). The church assure us that they have found the focus on what the Bible might say on these subjects helpful. We are now about to preach through the book of Exodus in ten weeks.

The Pastoral Team are going to spend two days away next week working through a number of matters for the future of our church.

Amy Soutter is heading on maternity leave at the end of the month. The wonderful news is that Tracey Piggott will be covering six months of the maternity leave. Tracey's husband, Geoff, was the minister in Laurieton in this Diocese for many years. The Piggott's have since been working with BCA and then in Kiama Parish, but have retired to Newcastle this week and are joining us for church.

Praise/Thank God for

- The opportunity to reflect on what the Bible says on sexuality and gender.
- The fact that there has been no Covid in Newcastle since July last year.
- The financial support of our church.
- Our Church Council and their direction of the Church.
- Tracey Piggott being available to cover children's ministry for Amy's maternity leave.

Pray for . . .

- The raising up of some fresh people to minister to children across our church
- The Pastoral Team days away, as we consider how to operate as a team.
- The Anglican Church of Australia, as it continues to wrestle with the question of the Blessing of same sex marriages.
- The 'fast tracking' of a renovation of the church building that we meet in.
- Tracey Piggott, as she commences looking after children's ministry for six months.

There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord. The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the Lord. Proverbs 21:30-31

TUESDAY : ASSISTANT MINISTER – Sam Broadfoot

Three years into serving All Saints ANeW and I continue to feel like a kid in a candy store - with small hands and no pockets or bag - too many great opportunities to take hold of! So, I'm continuing to ask God for more harvest-workers here. Specifically, someone who can come work with us for a few years, then take a group of people to plant another congregation nearby.

- Please pray with me!

And personally, I'm looking forward to reconnecting with friends at our Moore College yearly retreat in June (COVID wiping out last year's retreat).

In regards to some ministries at church ...

GROWTH GROUPS are looking at Exodus through term 3.

- **Ask God** to deepen our people's understanding and convictions of His great redemption in Christ, and freedom to serve Him.

TRAINING

- **Praise God**: our first MTS ministry trainee, Jacinta is 6 months into her apprenticeship and thriving.
- **Ask God** to keep moving in hearts, to raise up another apprentice for 2022.
- Specific dates to **pray for** regarding MTS (Ministry Training Strategy) :
 - **July 18** – an MTS plug across Sunday services.
 - **August 1** – MTS lunch with interested people.
 - **October 1-3** – streaming the MTS Recruit conference.

EVANGELISM

July 17 we're running an Olympics themed outreach event.

- **Pray for** boldness to invite friends, for soft hearts in those who come, and a God-given desire to join us for...
- ... our 5-week evangelistic course starting the week of **August 16**.

YOUTH

We've had a number of junior boys (yr7-8) join us recently.

- **Thank God** for them, and ask Him to draw more of their school-friends along to hear, believe and grow in the gospel.
- Continue to **thank God** for leaders Tom and Sarah, who have stepped up in responsibility for Friday nights.
- **Ask Him** to sustain them and also grow them through this ministry.

That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
Romans. 8:4

WEDNESDAY : CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - Amy Soutter

It continues to be a blessing to serve alongside the children and families of All Saints ANeW; to watch them grow physically and spiritually and to be encouraged by the commitment of our Children's Ministry Leaders and Kid's Talk Presenters. As always, there is plenty to thank God for and for which to ask for his provision.

Praise/Thank for

- committed Children's Ministry leadership teams who love and invest in our children.
- great Children's Ministry conferences in May.
- Children learning memory verses, hiding God's word in their hearts.
- Donna's and our Leaders efforts to comply with Safe Ministry.

Pray for :

- recruitment efforts as we seek to have all our teams fully equipped with Leaders.
- good rest for our Leaders over the July holidays.
- Team Leaders to have energy to love and lead their teams well in the midst of their other commitments.
- a smooth transition as Amy goes on maternity leave. For Amy to get everything completed to enable Ministry to continue well.

A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps. Proverbs 16:9

THURSDAY : WOMEN'S MINISTRY ASSISTANT 5pm - Kate Rogers

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. Heb 12:1

Praise/Thank for:

- Ladies meeting together lovingly and faithfully in varied ways as they seek to be increasingly and prayerfully shaped by God's Word and Spirit
- Growing our ladies' Growth Groups - studies in Habakkuk, Haggai and Hebrews have been encouraging and challenging, and we are looking forward to studies in Exodus next term in line with the sermon series.
- Book Club - continues to provide opportunity for ladies to read and discuss together quality Christian books that edify, equip and encourage us. Jen Wilkin's book, *Women of the Word*, is an excellent tool to help us study the Bible faithfully and deeply, providing time to understand and apply what we're reading.
- The **Prayer Chain** whose members faithfully and prayerfully uphold those in need, and thankfully see God's answers and provision.

Pray for :

- everyone joining us at All Saints ANeW to be warmly welcomed and lovingly encouraged as God's Word is faithfully taught and lived out....and that people's lives are being transformed by Jesus.

Growth Groups

- that leaders will be sustained and equipped to prepare wisely and faithfully.
- that ladies will grow in their understanding and application of the gospel, and in loving service of each other.
- that we can invest in and introduce non-Christian friends/family/colleagues to our Christian community in helpful ways.

TimeOut

- for the Team to continue to love and serve families wisely and well.
- for more people who would like to serve in this ministry to join the Team.
- that there will be many opportunities for gospel conversations and encouragement.
- that God will be working in people's hearts and lives to draw them to Himself.

Pastoral Team

- for wisdom, enabling, grace and zeal for every member.

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

FRIDAY : OUTREACH and 10am SERVICE - Beck Bishop

For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Philippians 2:14

Praise/Thank :

- Give thanks for the 6 ladies from Fletcher- who either attend craft or mainly music and who are engaging with Church/outreach activities. **Pray** that they would come to know Jesus personally.
- *The young man I teach SRE with at Minmi P.S. has had many year 5/6 students ask for Bibles of their own.*
- Give thanks that the Principal has allowed a permission note to go home and that they will return the notes, receive the Bibles and read/treasure them.

Prayer

- for the Olympics themed Outreach event we plan to run July 17th- a Christian World champion windsurfer is speaking and a local sports doctor.
- that many would come to this Outreach event and that it would be a great opportunity for our friends/family who don't yet know Jesus to connect.
- for my husband Darren and I as we take a solid chunk of holiday leave in June and July; that we would return refreshed and ready to serve.
- Pray for the next Knowing Jesus course starting in mid-August; that many would attend and want to investigate Jesus for themselves.
- Please continue to pray for mainly music families at Fletcher and New Lambton that many might have opportunity to follow Jesus.
- We'd love prayers that we could run a mainly music Fathers' day BBQ and music session this year at night on 31st August/1st September at 5.30pm in a covid safe way.

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

SATURDAY : Michael Marklew - Minister at St Paul's Church, Stockton

Hello brothers and sisters, thank you so much for your continued support and prayers.

Praise/Thanks for

- Mainly music that has resumed and for the team's loving support of this ministry.
- That several people were healed at our healing service last month.
- For God's love, grace, and mercy over this community.
- Our evangelism team. A number of breakthroughs have occurred including a person coming to Church and a new group starting on Fridays consisting of people who have indicated they want to know more when presented with the Gospel on the streets and at their front doors.

Pray

- That God continues to grow this community.
- The ministries of the Church; Sunday worship, mainly music, bible studies, Friday Why Jesus and the praise team.
- That God would bless us with a godly and committed Children's worker.
- That a great many people would come to a saving faith in Christ from our community and be baptized here throughout 2021.
- The Friday group (called Why Jesus); that the team would be sustained and protected and that a great many would come to faith in the Lord Jesus.
- That our leadership would be sustained and given wisdom to choose the right things to invest their time in and the right things to encourage the parish to invest in.

There is so much more to be thankful for and to pray for.

Your Brother in Christ, Michael Marklew, 0417 263354, Stockton Anglican Church.