

ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2021

# COMMUNITY MAG



ISSUE 07



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# com mit ment

Series







# MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

BEN MOLYNEUX

Dear St Faith's Church – it's the final countdown! What a long lockdown and restricted winter we've had and how awesome it is to know that there's light at the end of the tunnel! God-willing, we will be able to hand you the next edition of the Community Mag at the front door of church as we welcome you back in person to church!! We're still working out the finer details and the exact date, so stay tuned to your emails and updates from me during church time as those plans begin to come together.

During the month of October, we're launching into a four-week "Commitment Series". We're committed to lots of things in life today, and usually the feeling of being 'overloaded' with various commitments is not an uncommon problem for us as we face the busyness of life and work and relationships. Depending on our stage of life, we dedicate ourselves to different things like study, family, our work or growing our business. We're committed to our lifestyle, our relationships, our homes, our holidays, our fitness and much more! These commitments pull us in many different directions, stretching us, draining us and challenging us as we seek to live God-honouring lives.

But what commitments does God call us to as Christians? What does it look like for us to be dedicated to God's cause in the world? How might my life be challenged if I were to consider God's priorities over and above those mentioned in the paragraph above? What does the Bible say about what Christians are to commit themselves to?

In this short series we'll be looking at four of the commitments that God calls us to as his people, starting with a commitment to glorifying God in all of life. I hope and pray, that as we prepare to re-gather together in person in the coming months, this series might help reset our hearts, re-shape our culture, challenge our commitment and deepen our convictions as we dedicate our lives first and foremost to God's purposes in the world for us and in community together as St Faith's Church.

See you in church soon!

God bless,  
Ben

# MINISTRY APPRENTICE UPDATE

RENEE MILES



What a roller coaster these last few months, or really year has been! Highs, lows, unexpected turns, moments of excitement, sickness, heart ache, relief and cries of numerous emotions. Thankful that Jesus is right beside me though through it all. Also, thankful that we are on this journey together, despite not being able to see each other as frequently.

Term 3 has looked quite different in relation to my involvement in kids ministry. Sadly, there has been no Scripture teaching at the local schools (which I greatly miss), and no Lighthouse or Sunday morning kids in person. However, we have still endeavoured to encourage the kids in their faith through Lighthouse Online episodes and Kids Spots on Sunday mornings. I do miss not seeing and hearing the kid's immediate responses to the teaching. But it has been a lovely encouragement to receive emails from some kids and parents.

Working on the online content has definitely been challenging my technical skills, patience, creative mind and growth in Bible talk writing. I have been reminded a few times that faithful Bible teaching is hard work, so don't lose heart even when it is painful as God 'grows your muscles'.

Whilst hard, it is a joy to work for the Lord, knowing that his purpose will prevail and it is all so worthwhile!



1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm.

Let nothing move you.

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

In July I started Kidswise Masterclasses online with Sandy Galea (author & trainer). This involves online kids ministry training classes with Sandy each month, exploring areas like philosophy of kids ministry, developing teams, partnering with parents, shifting culture and creating systems that enable growth. Great experience so far.

I also have some exciting news! Next year I'm starting a Bachelor of Theology at Moore Theological College in Newtown. This will involve me studying full-time, moving into college accommodation, and even studying Greek (which I already have early access too!). I am a bit nervous about the assessments/exams but am very keen to learn and let God grow me for the work of the gospel.

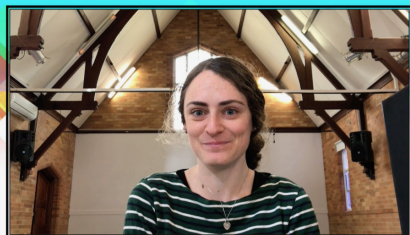
It's hard to know what these last few months of the year will entail, but I long to be back together with you all and to see God continue to grow his church. ■



**NOTHING COULD STOP GOD'S GREATER PLAN!**



**LIGHTHOUSE ONLINE**



# CONFIRMATION

BY ADAM SCOTT

ACTS 2:38-39  
"Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him".

Shortly after becoming a Christian, one of my pastors spoke to me about baptism.

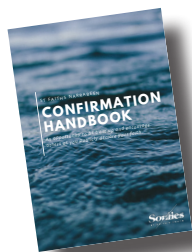
I knew I had been baptised as an infant (the photo evidence of me in a cute white frock still sits proudly on my parent's wall), but I didn't really understand the significance of it - and neither did my agnostic parents.

As a chubby little infant, they had made promises before God on my behalf. They had publicly acknowledged their responsibility for my Christian upbringing, and the congregation gathered there that day did too - they had promised to support my parents in fulfilling their responsibility. Everyone had made big promises.

Perhaps it was family pressure or cultural expectation that compelled my parents to baptise me. Either way, they didn't keep their promises. How could they? They weren't trusting and following Jesus themselves! Which meant that as a young Christian, 16 years later, I felt genuine uncertainty about my baptism and its significance. Given that it seemed like I hadn't been dunked in good faith, I had a host of questions and concerns about it.

As I was gently guided through the scriptures, I learned that baptism is a visible, tangible and public expression of faith in Jesus. It's obvious and memorable. You get soaked, and everyone sees you publicly declare your faith.





Then Jesus came to them and said,  
 “All authority in heaven and on earth has been  
 given to me. Therefore go and make disciples  
 of all nations, baptising them in the name of  
 the Father and of the Son and of the Holy  
 Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything  
 I have commanded you. And surely I am with  
 you always, to the very end of the age.”

Perhaps most significantly, I discovered that God's promises (rather than my parents' promises) were the foundation on which my baptism stood. It was Jesus' faithfulness, not mine - or my parent's, that was the hallmark of the faith I'd become a part of.

I also learned that my baptism was an outward sign of a spiritual work that God had done in me - a baptism by his Spirit. It signified and sealed my adoption into Christ, my cleansing from sin, and my commitment to belong to the Lord and to his church.

As a 16 year old and newly minted Christian, I had the opportunity to confirm the baptism promises my parents had made years earlier and own them for myself at Confirmation.

As people who rightly recognise Jesus' invitation to children to come to him (Luke 18:16), our Anglican tradition of Confirmation

offers us a wonderful opportunity to remember the baptism promises made by our parents, own them for ourselves, and to be prayerfully supported by our church family as they commit to help us live them out.

During lockdown a number of our Soulies youth took part in Confirmation Classes (via Zoom) in preparation for making these promises themselves. We spent 5 weeks together thinking through the fundamentals of what it looks like to trust and follow Jesus, and explored these questions: What is a Christian? What does a Christian believe? How does a Christian grow? How does a Christian serve?

When we can gather together again in the flesh, I'm looking forward to seeing these youth publicly declare their faith in Jesus as they get baptised or confirmed - minus the cute white frock.



# MEET A MEMBER

NOLA  
MUNRO



## FAST FOUR

### -FAV MOVIE

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

### -FAV FOOD

A HOME COOKED BAKED DINNER OR HONEY PRAWNS FROM THE SEA STAR CHINESE RESTAURANT AT WARRIEWOOD.

### -BEST BEACH

NORTH NARRABEEN, ESPECIALLY THE LOVELY ROCK POOL.

### -IF YOU COULD VISIT ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD WHERE WOULD YOU GO

I'VE BEEN VERY BLESSED TO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL TO MANY COUNTRIES DURING MY LIFE, BUT AT THE AGE OF 85 I FEEL MY TRAVELLING OVERSEAS DAYS ARE OVER. I'VE LOVED MANY OF THE COUNTRIES I'VE VISITED, BUT BY FAR MY FAVOURITE WAS ISRAEL.

## Tell us how long you have been at St Faith's, ways you serve at church and what service you are a part of.

I have been a part of the St Faiths community since my late husband Jim and I were married and moved to North Narrabeen in 1963. We first attended All Saints, a smaller branch church, but then as our 3 girls grew we started attending St Faiths so they could attend Sunday school and youth fellowship.

Over the years my family and I have served the church in many ways. At present I do this by, singing in the choir, being part of the Traditional Church Task Force Committee and preparing communion. Up until the COVID 19 pandemic, I was also coordinating the Seniors Group, a social group for the more mature members of the Church, this group met monthly at the Church for fellowship and connection, but sadly due to lockdowns and restrictions this group has not been able to meet as a group for the last 18mths. I attend Traditional Church.

## **How and when did you both start following Jesus?**

I started following Jesus at the age of 12 while attending Sunday school at St Philips Church in Manly. In the years that followed I started attending St Matthews, also in Manly, attending fellowship and teaching Sunday school. During this time I was very blessed to be surrounded by many loving, mature Christians who were great role models for me in the early years of my faith.

## **Why is it important for you and your family to be a part of a church family?**

It is important to be part of a church family so that as Christian we can support, pray for and encourage each other. We learn from one another and our leaders and it is also important to be accountable to each other for our choices and actions. As

it is in any family we share the good and happy times and also the sad and difficult ones. For me, during their illness and following the deaths of my Husband and Daughter from cancer, the kindness, love, prayers and support I received from my church family was unmeasurable, and I am very thankful to be a part of this wonderful community.

## **What have been some encouragements from our series in John's Gospel at the moment?**

I have learnt that I need to be faithful and not set boundaries around what it means for me to follow Jesus and that my commitment to Jesus impacts every aspect of my life. It has also reinforced to me that Jesus's love for me is more than I can ever comprehend and he will ALWAYS provide what I need. ■

## **GIVING**

Thank you for your generosity and partnership in supporting the work of St Faith's. If you wish to start giving you can do this by using our secure online giving platform that allows you to give electronically using your debit or credit card (visit <https://stfaiths.church/give> for more details) or by bank transfer from your own bank's mobile app or online banking using the below account details:

**St Faiths Narrabeen**  
**BSB: 032-192**  
**ACC: 860318**

# JOHN

GOSPEL



## WHAT I HAVE TAKEN AWAY FROM OUR SERIES IN JOHN'S GOSPEL...

In chapter 1, verse 14 John says..."The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us." I know I can say I've read these passages quite a few times but in the back of my mind I always seemed to give emphasis to the 'Word' coming from God and not emphatically being defined as the person of God. I always look forward to what amazing knowledge God is wishing to teach me in all our future studies.

### JOHN MOORE

The book of John reveals a deeper understanding that God had to come again in the person of his SON, to redeem us from Satan's power.

He is come in human form to experience our temptations. At the well at Sychar weary, tired, he sits waiting for this lonely, troubled woman like us. Glory be to God he reveals himself!!!

He says to the woman I AM HE, GOOSEBUMPS, She runs, excitement: tell everybody the Messiah is here!!!!!! Thank you Father for Love that will not let me go.

### JOAN STEEL

Simon: Jesus is not all showy with his miracles - he heals with a word and it's done. He doesn't even need to touch someone and it isn't like a travelling stage show!

Jeremy: John the Baptist celebrates his disciples going to Jesus and doesn't resent his loss. It's a good example of humility.

Rebecca: Reminded of the human emotions that Jesus experiences, such as at the wedding. He was reluctant, not quite ready to go public with his ministry.

Penny: So many aspects of Jesus' character can be seen - he has supernatural knowledge about Nathanael, compassion for the family that ran out of wine, authority over the invalid's illness, speaks a challenge to Nicodemus, rebuke to the money changers and life to the Samaritans.

### THE HUNTERS

I've loved looking at John's gospel, especially after Genesis. Both books start off with passages that are so similar.

I've enjoyed getting to know John the baptist, Nicodemus and the Samaritan women.

All of whom met with Jesus and saw something remarkable, which completely changed their lives.

### ADAM ANDRESEN

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Pray for those expecting-**

Ebony and Dan Forsyth, Helen and Marcus Druitt, and James and Jemma Hunt.

### **Those unwell:**

Kerry Nagel

Rosemary Irwin

Larry Tolnay

Isabelle Furness

John Richards

Albert Burgess

Ramin Mairzyzi

Robyn Ohlsson

Marilyn Lound

Shirley Tucker

Sean Foley

Continue to pray for Lyndal and all of the Foote family as they grieve Lizzie.







# REACH AUSTRALIA

BY BEN MOLYNEUX

Over the last few months of lockdown and restrictions, I wanted to let you know that our staff, wardens and Parish Council have been working hard in the background of church life!!

At the start of this year we engaged the services of an organisation called Reach Australia. Reach Australia has recently brought together the strengths of other Australian, like-minded para-church ministries to partner with local churches and their leaders, with the goal of seeing healthy, evangelistic and multiplying churches reaching the lost across Australia. I have been involved in the Reach Australia Leadership Program which provides professional development for Christian leaders, as well as a consultation to the local church. The purpose of this consultation is to provide a thorough review of our church from both the inside (staff, wardens and Parish Council contributions) and outside eyes (our consultants) that serves to review where we're at as a church today and plan towards our future together.

With the significant change of leadership and the interruptions of COVID, we felt that this was a useful time for us to engage in this process, helping us to identify any 'ministry ruts' we're in, obstacles for growth, and building on the many wonderful things that we know already exist in our church community at St Faith's.

So where are we up to? Well, we've only just begun! Our staff team have engaged in a weekly consultation with the Reach team through the month of August, individual staff members have engaged in personal consultations for their particular area of ministry as they shape plans for the future, and our wardens, Parish Council and other key leaders have provided their confidential feedback to the Reach Australia team (the plan was a half-day session in person, however we obviously couldn't do this due to COVID). As all this information has been processed, the Reach Australia team have last week delivered to us a draft report which the staff, Parish Council and wardens have just started to digest! I'm sure you'll hear more about this in the coming months, but for now, please be praying that as we review, plan, and look to the future together, that St Faith's Anglican Church would be a place where more and more people come to trust Jesus as their Lord and Saviour and grow into mature disciples of Jesus. We would love your prayers and partnership to that end!

God bless,  
Ben



## OCTOBER PRAYER DIARY

FRI 1	<b>COTTAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE</b> – Pray for a successful outcome with the recent applications for several grants as these funds will go towards assisting clients with financial difficulties to access counselling. Pray for those clients who are suffering more due to the extended lockdown. Pray for counsellors as they continue to manage meeting online or by phone with their clients.
SAT 2	<b>CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</b> - Give thanks for the school holidays and the break from at home learning. Pray for kids and parents as they settle back into the at home learning routine for the first half of this term. Give thanks that we have a timeline for getting kids back into the classroom. Pray for those within the NSW Departments of Health and Education as they work out the logistics of getting our kids back to school physically. Pray that they would communicate well with each other and with school principals.
SUN 3	Give thanks and praise to God for our <b>COMMUNITY GROUP LEADERS</b> who have continued to faithfully serve us during the lockdown period. Pray that our Community Groups would be places which engage with God's word together and grow in love and support for one another as God's family. Pray that our leaders feel refreshed after a few weeks rest and re-energised for the term ahead.
MON 4	<b>ESL</b> - Pray for ESL as we plan to restart zoom classes when the school term commences in term 4. Thank God for ongoing relationships with students and the enthusiasm of students to keep learning English. Pray for our teachers, particularly Beth Glyde, Meri Cusworth, and Jeanette McCausland as they plan the lessons and follow up students. Pray that students will be keen to join the classes and will have the skills and devices to enable them to participate.
TUE 5	<b>MISSION - CHRIS AND KAREN WEBB - Broome Peoples Church</b> – Give thanks for men and women groups restarting with the men's group on the oval attracting attention; also for the Tuesday Night Fellowship studies leading to good discussions. Praise God that The Kimberley Christian Convention went ahead in July with safe travel to Kununurra and back and was very encouraging for those who were able to meet. Pray for the many Aboriginal people in Broome who do not know Jesus; pray God will give the Webbs and Broome Peoples Church ideas, relationships, opportunities and boldness to introduce more people to Jesus. Ask God to call Broome locals into his family.

WED 6	<p><b>MISSION - IRWAN AND CATHERINE - AFES at Wollongong Uni</b></p> <p>- Pray for students to boldly reach out and speak about Jesus to their friends. Give thanks for the Mission Minded conference (1-3 Oct), where we invited, encouraged, and challenged students to be living their life with His great commission in mind, to consider serving Him in a fulltime paid capacity. Thank God for bringing more than 150 students to the Mid-Year Conference and many more hearing His word at the night session. Pray God will continue working in shaping these students to grow in love and trust in. Pray for the Kooloobong and Campus East College Bible study groups - that they will grow in trust and love and stay connected as we meet online and keep engaging with their peers. Pray for God's mercy on students J and G. Pray for Irwan and Catherine as they share their life with elderly neighbours especially after the passing of a dear neighbour, John; pray for God's grace in softening and turning their hearts to Him.</p>
THU 7	<p><b>MISSION - MEAGAN LLEWELYN - EU Sydney Uni</b></p> <p>- Pray for how Meagan is utilising her time on/off zoom, as well as sticking to her boundaries of hours on zoom. Pray for the students as they come to the end of semester in lockdown, that they would be energised and sustained for the week of heightened evangelism in week 10 when reaching out to non-Christian's at University and seeking to share Jesus with them.</p>
FRI 8	<p><b>GUMNUT KINDY</b></p> <p>- Praise God that enrolments are almost full for 2022! This is a huge answer to prayer. Pray for highly qualified and passionate Christian staff for the new vision of excellence in education. Give thanks for the Director Clare Froggatt. Ask God to give her energy and wisdom in this role.</p>
SAT 9	<p><b>COMPASSION</b></p> <p>- pray for the work of Compassion assisting children who live in poverty and sharing the life-changing message of Jesus' love. Give thanks that all Compassion families affected by Typhoon Conson in the Philippines in September have now returned home. Please pray for children and their families as well as church partners as they recover from this storm. Give thanks for the food packs, clothing and cleaning materials from the Compassion Child development centres and the local government. Pray local staff are able to continue distributing food packs as needed and utilise Compassion Disaster Relief funds to assist with home repairs.</p>
SUN 10	<p>Pray for <b>BEN MOLYNEUX as he opens God's word for us in the COMMITMENT SERIES</b> during October. Pray that, as we look to re-gather in person in the coming weeks, that this series would help reset our hearts, re-shape our culture, our commitment, and our convictions about what God's purposes are for us as his people and for us as a community together at St Faith's. Pray that God would be glorified in our lives individually and corporately as a church.</p>
MON 11	<p><b>MISSION - DAN AND OLIVIA WEBSTER</b></p> <p>- Namibia Evangelical and Theological Seminary - Praise God that the Websters were able to get flights and have now arrived in Sydney for Home assignment. Pray for rest and refreshment for them and for Covid restrictions to ease so they have opportunity to meet in person with their sponsor churches. Thank God that the Webster's are able to join us in person at St Faith's in November.</p>

TUE 12	<b>MISSION - FIONA KIRSOP - CREDO at UTS</b> – Pray for God to raise up workers for the harvest field out of our Nursing and Midwife students and graduates. That Health students would remain faithful to Jesus and persevere in a field with a high rate of burnout and dissatisfaction. Pray they might take the gospel with them everywhere they go, and most of all to the nations. For wisdom as Sam and Fiona, in their role as Apprentice coaches, think about how to best accommodate part-time apprentices from Health. That the stories they have collected from other grads and ministers of the gospel would inspire and encourage even more Health students who were not able to attend the Vocational Ministry Zoom workshop – "Health + Ministry Inspo Night" in person.
WED 13	<b>WAR VETS</b> – Give thanks that Chaplains Tony and Bob are able to access to the 'Care Centres' to do services and been able to continue other contact including Tony engaging with residents when he displayed his motorcycle and sidecar at the nursing home; zooming for Bible Studies where members enjoyed catching up and connecting together. Many of the residents in the 'Care Centres' and the Village are struggling with the isolation in the lock down. Pray as people become fully vaccinated, they can have visits from family and friends. Pray our pastoral volunteers may be able to return soon as residents do miss them. Pray vaccinations will keep up pace and hospital admissions will drop so we all can come out of lock down and regain some freedoms by particularly having attendance together at Sunday Services.
THU 14	Give thanks for <b>ONLINE ALPHA</b> and the seekers who have been attending. Please pray for that they will continue to do 'Discover' – a bible reading group for seekers and skeptics, as we read through the Gospel of Luke together. Pray that hearts will be convicted and lives transformed by the gospel.
FRI 15	<b>LIGHTHOUSE</b> - Pray for the Lighthouse kids, particularly those who are not regular members of St Faiths, that they will be reminded of God's love for them during this time apart and will be eager to return when we can.
SAT 16	<b>WEEKEND KIDS</b> - Pray that over the <b>COMMITMENT SERIES</b> the kids will grow in their understanding of what it looks like to be friends with Jesus. Thank God for our team of volunteers who have jumped in to serve in kids ministry while Lyndal has been away.
SUN 17	Pray for <b>BEN MOLYNEUX as he opens God's word for us today in the COMMITMENT SERIES</b> , helping us to think about what the Bible teaches we ought to be committed to as Christians. Pray that as we look at the concept of bearing fruit in our lives, that God would soften our hearts to have a good look at whether our attitudes match up to God's in this regard. Pray that God, by his Spirit, would produce fruit in each of us that glorifies him.
MON 18	Pray for those <b>COMMUNITY GROUPS</b> , for whom meeting whilst kids are doing at home learning is really hard. Please pray that they would be looking out for each other in other ways and would still be able to be engaged in God's word themselves. Pray that we would be able to gather again physically in a safe way very soon.

TUE 19	<b>WARRIEWOOD BROOK</b> - Please pray for those Warriewood Brook residents who are unable to visit their spouses due to the lockdown in aged care. Please pray for comfort for those in the Warriewood Brook community who are grieving. Please pray for our chaplaincy team of Barry, Deborah and Carol - that they will be effective in caring for residents via zoom, phone calls and some visitation.
WED 20	<b>THE COMMUNITY PANTRY</b> - Give thanks that TCP is able to continue to provide both food and caring contact for their guests. Also, for answered prayer that TCP is reaching more people in need in the Community. Give thanks that TCP has been blessed with fine weather each Wednesday. Pray for continued protection for guests and volunteers from the virus. Pray for wisdom for the Government and the Committee as to how this Ministry may be affected by policy with regard to Covid and vaccinations. Pray TPC will always be able to provide for anyone in need, and we reflect Jesus' love for all our guests and that they open their hearts to Him.
THU 21	Pray for <b>ANGLICAN AID</b> as they try to find a way to provide support to Afghanistan; speaking with various contacts in the region and following every lead. Pray that God opens the door for charities to get humanitarian assistance into Afghanistan. Pray also for Anglican Aid's efforts around the world where Covid infection numbers are surging as they seek to support Christian partners to care for Covid patients with ventilators, oxygen machines and cylinders, medicine, PPE, and more.
FRI 22	<b>SCRIPTURE</b> - Pray with the opening of schools in term 4, that scripture classes will be allowed to resume in a covid safe way before the year end. Give thanks for scripture teachers who volunteered their time and their commitment in preparing lessons each week, teaching the gospel to children in schools.
SAT 23	<b>BUSH CHURCH AID</b> - Pray for those who live in isolated and remote parts of Australia. Ask God to strengthen and encourage all ministers and ministries that are supported by The Bush Church Aid Society. Refresh them in times of discouragement and loneliness and call others to stand with them in the task of making Christ known. Pray especially for BCA ministers in regional Victoria, ask God to sustain them through the constant sudden change to plans and ministry as they face a 7th lockdown. Pray they continue to share the hope and peace that comes from God. <b>TRENT MCGRATH - BCA Jindabyne</b> - As the snow season unwinds, pray that Village Church might bless the winter residents and farewell them in a way that honours their gospel partnership over the last few months
SUN 24	Pray for <b>BEN MOLYNEUX as he opens God's word for us today in the COMMITMENT SERIES</b> helping us to think through what it means to be committed to gospel-centred generosity. Thank God for the many examples of this in the Bible and the many examples of this sort of generosity in our church. Above all, thank God for his generosity to us in the Lord Jesus.



MON 25	<b>SCHOOL STUDENTS</b> – Pray for the safety of year 12, kindergarten and year 1 children who will be returning to in-person classes today and for all other years returning in a staggered approach over the next few weeks. Pray God would ease their anxiety about going back to school in the midst of this pandemic. Pray for calm for the HSC students and for them to prepare well for their exams starting on the 9th November. Pray also for safety for the teachers and staff in our school system.
TUE 26	Please pray for <b>THOSE WHO ARE FEELING DISCONNECTED FROM CHURCH</b> . As we look forward to opening up again after this lockdown, ask God to help us be a warm, welcoming community that is sharing Jesus love with all those within our community. Pray that God might help us to always be looking outward for those who feel a bit on the outer and include them warmly amongst us.
WED 27	<b>OPEN DOORS - pray for PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS</b> , in places like Nigeria, Sudan and Mali where a third wave of COVID-19 has worsened their situation with extended lockdown measures, isolation and deepening economic hardship. Most flock to the church for help, but some pastors who have not had any income for more than a year now have become even more overwhelmed. Give thanks that the generosity of supporters has enabled local partners to deliver emergency relief, like food and clothes to more than 17,000 families. Praise God for His provision for His people; pray that the believers will continue to share the gospel, no matter the cost and pray for the Lord's grace and wisdom over persecuted church leaders seeking to serve their communities.
THU 28	<b>WAR VETS</b> - Give thanks for the blessing of Kim Williams and his charity group providing fruit and vegetables and cooked meals for many needy residents. Also give thanks for those residents who enjoy delivering this food to others. Please prayer for this community service.
FRI 29	<b>SOULIES</b> – give thanks for the privilege we've had of being able to continue meeting together throughout lockdown. Praise God that it looks like we will be able to gather again in person this term. Pray that the faith of our youth will have been strengthened through this difficult time.
SAT 30	<b>RETURNING TO CHURCH</b> – as we approach the time of church opening and meeting in person, pray for guidance and wisdom for our ministry team in how best to do this, so as not to put the most vulnerable and community at risk.
SUN 31	Pray for <b>BEN MOLYNEUX as he wraps up the COMMITMENT SERIES</b> at church today helping us to think through what it means to be committed to growing in and building up God's church. Thank God for the diversity of people and giftedness in our church community and pray that God would open your own heart to consider how you might participate in the building up of the body of Christ as we move into the next season of church life together in 2022.

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