

ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

JULY 2023

COMMUNITY MAG

P R A Y E R



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Welcome

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

BEN MOLYNEUX



Dear Church,

As we launch into the second half of the year together at church, I'm really excited to be kicking it off with a sermon series on prayer. Over three weeks in church we'll consider Paul's priorities in prayer (Eph 3:14-21), the forgotten prayer (Psalm 51), and the Lord's prayer (Matt 6:5-14), as we seek to grow as disciples of Jesus in this particular area of Christian life.

The late Tim Keller, in his book "Prayer - Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God," writes:

'In our natural state we pray to God to get things. We may believe in God, but our deepest hopes and happiness reside in things as in how successful we are or in our social relationships. We therefore pray mainly when our career or finances are in trouble, or when some relationship or social status is in jeopardy. When life is going smoothly, and our truest heart treasures seem safe, it does not occur to us to pray.'
(p77)

I'm not sure about you, but that can so easily resonate as my experience of prayer in the midst of the chaos of life, and yet God's word has so much more to teach about prayer giving us a deeper understanding of the power and importance of prayer in the Christian life. I hope and pray that this series together challenges us to go deeper in our love of prayer and our commitment to it.

Speaking of prayer, please be praying for Chillout coming up on the 12-14 July at church. This is going to be an epic week of mission, aimed at children and their families. At the time of writing, registrations are almost full, leaders are busy preparing, and I want to ask you to be praying!! The Chillout team have reflected on Colossians 4:2-6 each time we've met where Paul asks for prayer, particularly for the gospel message to be proclaimed clearly, for wisdom in the way he acts towards outsiders, and to make the most of every opportunity. Please be praying this for our Chillout mission team in our week of mission together!

As we launch into term 3 together (starting 23 July) we will pick up the second half of 1 Corinthians, Good News for a Messy Church, starting at chapter 11.

See you on the weekend,

Ben

1 CORINTHIANS

GOOD NEWS FOR A MESSY CHURCH

BEN MOLYNEUX

GOOD NEWS FOR A MESSY CHURCH

1 Corinthians 11-16 | Term 3

Ancient Corinth, like contemporary Sydney, was a cosmopolitan city where prosperity and hedonism were celebrated. The Apostle Paul planted a church there (Acts 18), and sadly the surrounding culture of the city left its mark on the church community. Instead of unity and clarity around how the Corinthians should live as God's gathered people, there was a diversity of perspectives about what it looked like to live acceptably as followers of Jesus. This led to significant problems within the church - it was messy!

Paul's relationship with the Corinthian Christians spanned a period of several years (c.AD 50 - 57). Paul visited the city on three separate occasions, as well as sending representatives on his behalf. Members of the church at Corinth also visited Paul while he was in Ephesus, (1 Cor 1:11, 16:17) on one occasion even bringing him a letter from their church in Corinth (1 Cor 7:1).

From these letters Paul addresses the messiness of their church life - divisions and factions, immorality and sexual misconduct, legal action, abuse of spiritual gifts, and disruptions in their meetings. It was a mess, but on each occasion, we see Paul address those problems by pointing God's people back to the gospel. The gospel solves each issue and the gospel informs them how Christians should live.

Ultimately, that's what makes 1 Corinthians good news for a messy church - even a messy church like ours - it reminds us of the gospel! In doing so, it challenges us to see every area of our lives through a gospel lens (whether that's sexual ethics, conscience issues, doctrine, leadership, or even how we disagree in a godly way). As we dig into God's word this term, we're going to come across some tricky parts in the Bible. My encouragement is for you to keep your gospel goggles on and notice how Paul addresses the tricky matters in the Corinthian Church with love at the centre, demonstrated perfectly in Jesus.

LYNDAL FOOTE

CHILLOUT

We have 40 leaders, 15 Junior leaders and many musicians, designers, administrators, sound and lighting experts, caterers, baristas, welcomers, carparkers, pray-ers, carpenters and the rest ready to make Jesus' name known to around 100 kids this school holidays! We're going to transform our church building into an out of space arena and our Senior Minister into an alien as we teach the kids the big gospel truth that Jesus, and all he has done for us, is OUT OF THIS WORLD!

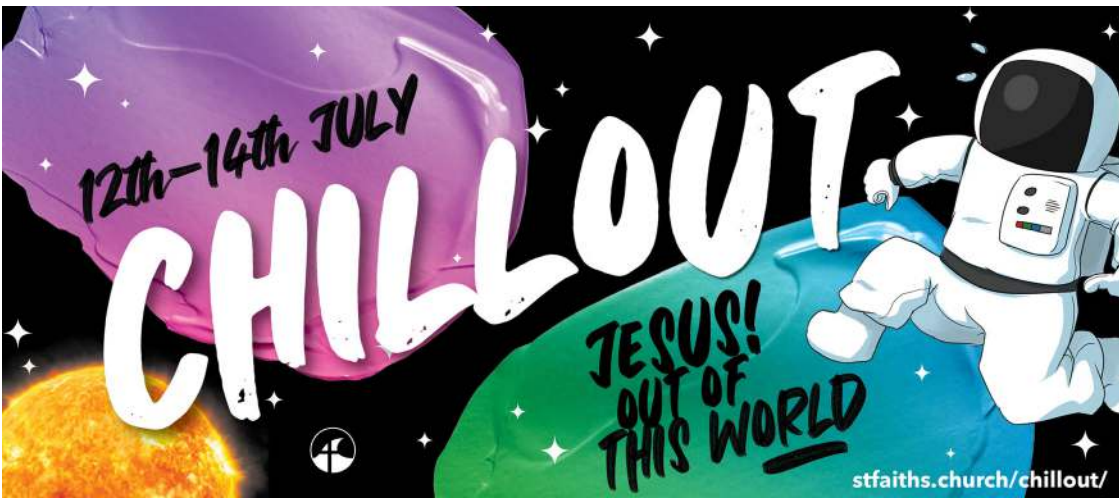
We are so thankful for all leaders and support crew who have given their time in preparation and prayer for what will be a wonderful week of mission together as we work towards seeing a Northern Beaches that knows Jesus.

Chillout 2023 is almost ready for take off! The countdown is on!

Thank you for your patience as our church and services will look a little different the weekend after Chillout. For those coming to Morning Church (10:30am), please prepare for something a little 'out of this world' and be on the lookout for our visiting Chillout families. Please welcome them as they join us in church that morning (16 July) and stay on for all the fun after church!

Please continue to pray that as gospel seeds are planted in the hearts of young people, that God would build his kingdom and that both children and families come to know the life changing, out of this world, gospel message of Jesus.

Jesus! Out of this world!



“We came to St Faiths for a short season but it was a God season. We had only been coming to St Faiths for 6 weeks before going into a difficult pregnancy for the full 9 months. During that time, even though we were still fairly new, we were never once forgotten, and we were cared for by this body of Christ. Fast forward a year and due to job relocations we’ve had to leave this beautiful community and move to the sunny country. Never have we encountered a church community that showered us with so much love from Jesus in such a small season. We will never forget the kindness and generosity of St Faiths, the ministry team and the faithful congregation. Even though, we were only at this beautiful church for a short time, it was for such a time as this. And if anyone wants a trip to “The Land” near Gunnedah, our door is always open with the same love you all showed us.

With Much Love,

**ISAIAH AND
BETHANY**



CONFIRMATION 2023



WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

NEIL SOUTER

Confirmation is a ceremony in which you publicly declare your commitment to Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, profess what you believe as a Christian and promise to strive to serve and obey him as a member of the church. In the lead up to Confirmation we want to prepare ourselves to make these claims so this is what we plan to cover in the classes the 4 weeks prior:

What is a Christian?

What does a Christian believe?

How does a Christian grow?

How does a Christian serve?

Interestingly, Confirmation does not appear in the Bible; Jesus was never confirmed! What is it then and why do we confirm people? Confirmation is practised by the Presbyterian, Anglican and Roman Catholic denominations. For Presbyterians and Anglicans, Confirmation is used as an opportunity for children baptised as infants to declare their own confession of faith in Christ and for them to declare their

membership of the congregation. Confirmation has a different meaning and significance for Roman Catholics.

Denominations that do not practise infant baptism do not confirm, but have adult (or, believer's) baptism. The Baptist and Church of Christ denominations favour this approach. We practise infant baptism because we believe that the children of believers are special to God (see 1 Corinthians 7:14) and so we want to treat them as believers until they make it clear that they are not. We pray in the baptism service that God will use our teaching of his word to bring them into real life with him. Confirmation is the public ceremony where people who have been baptised declare that they are followers of Jesus Christ and that they want to be members of this church (this gathering of God's people).

If you would like to be Confirmed or have questions, please reach out to Neil at neilestfaiths.org.au.

MEET A *ministry* MEMBER

THE
SOUTER'S

FAST FOUR

FAV MOVIE:

Neil- Lord of the Rings

Lou- Thor, Ragnarok, or Harry Potter, or Royal Tenenbaums

FAV HOLIDAY DESTINATION:

Neil- South West Rocks

Lou- Scotland

FAV BEACH:

Neil- Longreef

Lou- Little Bay up at SWR

FAV COFFEE SHOP:

Neil- Drip

Lou- this week, Whole leaf



Who is in your family?

Neil, Lou, Sam (12), Ivy (10) and Eli (7)

Beside's church, what do your week's look like?

All the kids play for Collaroy Striker's so there's lots of soccer games and training. Sam's just started Year 7 at Covenant and has caught the fishing bug like his dad. Ivy and Eli are at Collaroy Public School in years 2 and 5. Lou works at Covenant too doing Graphic Design and is most happy when creating something. Younger 2 love 'helping' mum create things.

What service does your family attend?

Lou, Sam, Ivy and Eli attend Saturday Church. Sam also attends Soulies and Ivy attends Lighthouse on Fridays- they Love it!

What do you love about being a part of the St Faith's Church Family?

We love the encouragement we get from our brothers and sisters in Christ, and doing the ups and downs of life together. We also love seeing our kids look forward to church each week, making friends, being taught by awesome leaders, serving others and growing in their faith.

What can we as a church be praying for you?

Pray that Sam, Ivy and Eli will grow strong in faith and continue to prioritise church for the rest of their lives; pray that our marriage would be strong in love for each other and the Lord Jesus, as we serve Him and His Church together.

JULY PRAYER DIARY

SAT 1	Pray for Take Two Camp (30th June - 2nd July) - that those spending time away would be encouraged and built up to be a community of young people who are growing as mature disciples of Jesus who are on mission to see a Northern Beaches that knows him.
SUN 2	Pray for our sermon series on Prayer over July. Ask God to use that time to strengthen our resolve as his people to be faithful in prayer demonstrating deep dependence on him.
MON 3	JESUS CLUB - Give thanks for Verity who is having her baby soon and has served as a leader for many years. We look forward to meeting her little one and wish her and Dave all the best. Pray for our members Brendan, Kathryn, Ben, Dylan, Adam and leaders Dan, Nat, Steve, Anne, Michael and Bec.
TUE 4	Pray for Rosemary MacGregor as she takes some time off at the start of July. Ask God to renew and refresh her during this time so that she would be energised as she returns to a week of mission at Chillout.
WED 5	WAC - Give thanks for the completion of the refurbishment work on the auditorium for Church (and other community) gatherings and for our recommencement of Services on Sunday 28 May. We remain hopeful of marking our return to the auditorium with a suitable 'welcome-back-to-church', celebration on or about 16 July. Give thanks for new residents that have begun to arrive in the village after completion of renewal-work on several vacant apartments.
THU 6	QUILTING AND NEEDLEWORK CLUB - Give thanks the women are able to meet and have fellowship each Thursday. Give thanks they can share skills, encourage each other with their individual projects and for the items they make for charity every year.

FRI 7	Pray for the whole Chillout team as we prepare to welcome the children to church soon. Pray more children will register for Chillout and pray the children will hear the good news about Jesus.
SAT 8	GUMNUT KINDERGARTEN – Praying for growing in our knowledge and growth and love for the Lord as a team and community. Praying for good partnerships, understanding and communication between families and educators. Pray for safe travels for families that are going overseas for family and holiday in the school holidays. Pray for good health for our Gumnut families, educators and children. Pray for blessings to our new children that will be joining our Gumnut community in the next month. Pray they settle in well. Praise God and give thanks for the great Gumnut team and the welcoming environment we provide for the children and families.
SUN 9	Pray for Ben preaching at Saturday, Morning and Night church and Philip preaching at Traditional and at WAC . As they preach on Psalm 51, pray we will be encouraged and that we would respond with a deeper faith and trust in the Lord Jesus.
MON 10	ESL – Praise God for a great term of classes and for the students that have attended, for their enthusiasm and their keenness to learn English. Praise God for the students who have stayed back after class for the Bible study. Pray for the Holy Spirit to speak to the hearts of all the students and for them to seek to know more of Christ. ESL is now on a break for the school holidays. Please pray for the team, that they will have an opportunity for rest and restoration. Please pray too in the lead up to Term 3, that new students will hear of the classes and that our classes will grow. And pray that we will all continue to seek God’s guidance and to rely on Him in all we do at ESL.
TUE 11	Pray for the Soulies Leader’s Planning Night on 14th July. Give thanks for a wonderful team of leaders and pray for God’s spirit to guide and give wisdom to planning and conversation as the team maps out Term 3. Pray for energy and joy for leaders as they serve each Friday Night.

WED 12	CHILLOUT DAY 1 - Pray for Chillout Camp which kicks off this morning and continues tomorrow and Friday morning. Give thanks for Lyndal and the team of volunteers for all their hard work in preparations. Pray the children will settle in quickly and all will have a fun time. Pray for good health for the team and the children attending so nothing will get in the way of them coming along for these three mornings. Ask God to be working in the children's hearts and minds by the Holy Spirit to help them to see his love for them.
THU 13	CHILLOUT DAY 2 - Pray for the second day of camp, that the children will feel welcomed and have a sense of connection and belonging. Pray for patience and love toward each child at Chillout. Pray many parents will decide to stay and have good conversations in the Chillout café with some of the people from St Faith's. Pray the children will continue to have a good time and that the Holy Spirit will be working in the hearts and minds of each child to turn to God and believe.
FRI 14	CHILLOUT DAY 3 - Pray for the Chillout Camp as they wrap up today. Give thanks for the opportunity to be able to run a children's camp this year here at St Faith's, so that children in the community who don't know Jesus yet were able to hear the good news. Pray the children have had a memorable time at the camp and for them to want to know more about Jesus and his love for them. Pray the children will be keen to come along to church this Sunday for Chillout Church and will encourage their parents to bring them. Give thanks for and pray for good rest and restorations for Lyndal and the Chillout team.
SAT 15	NPSRE CROMER CAMPUS - Pray for the logistics involved in organising the timetables to accommodate Scripture. Pray that God would give Phil the right words to say on sensitive subjects. Pray that students hearing Bible stories for the first time will be excited, interested and eager to learn more about God.
SUN 16	CHILLOUT CHURCH - Pray many Chillout children and their families will come along to church today and feel welcomed. Pray the service will run smoothly and for clarity, simplicity and truth for those who are speaking. Pray the Holy Spirit will be at work in the Chillout children and their parent's hearts and

CONT'D	minds as they hear the good news about Jesus. Give thanks for all those serving today on BBQ, kitchen and the kid's activities. Pray for good conversations after church.
MON 17	MISSION - IRWAN AND CATHERINE AFES AT UNI OF WOLLONGONG - Pray for the preparations, materials and electives to run smoothly for the annual Mid Year Conference (17th-21st July). Pray for many students to come to the Conference and may God prepare their heart and mind to more than just a hunger to learn but a heart that is willing to trust and obey His word. Pray for Jesus week mission 31st July to 11th August. Pray we will reach many.
TUE 18	Pray teachers and students are refreshed from their two week holiday and are ready to start a new term of teaching and learning. Pray for good health for both teachers and students during the winter months. Pray also as scripture classes resume that the children will be eager to learn more about Jesus and his love for them. Give thanks for Jo Harpur who coordinates scripture every year.
WED 19	Give thanks and praise to our great God as he continues to provide for all the needs of The Community Pantry . Give thanks for all our volunteers and for members of the community who have come to help serve. We thank Jesus for working in the hearts of our guests. Give thanks for Neil and the Bible Study he leads each week with love and grace, and for its members who are growing in their love and knowledge of our Lord Jesus. Pray the Holy Spirit works in the hearts of those who don't know Jesus. Pray for those guests who have friends and family in need of healing.
THU 20	MISSION - DAN AND LIV WEBSTER - NAMIBIA EVANGELICAL AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY - Give thanks for the recent visit with Jenny and Adam Andresen. Give thanks for their use of professional skills to serve alongside us. Jenny trained local health care professionals and community members and did home visits with Liv. Adam upskilled the NETS maintenance man, Matthias, in electrics. Give thanks for the fellowship we had with Jenny and Adam and getting to know and appreciate a new brother and sister as we went about serving the Lord

CONT'D	together. Praise God for two of Liv's patients improved so much with their condition, that they can pursue a more 'normal' life. Give thanks for the visit of Dan's parents. Ask God that students would have a good break and stay close to the Lord. Ask God that Dan would use this time well to prepare for next semester.
FRI 21	Pray for Soulies as it kicks off tonight for term 3 . Pray that the youth community would continue growing in their love of Jesus and one another, as they hear from God's Word each week. Give thanks for leaders who faithfully serve and disciple the young people that God brings through our doors each week.
SAT 22	ST FAITH'S KIDS - Give thanks for a wonderful team of leaders who faithfully lead our children of all ages every weekend with joy and love. Thank God for each of them: Nicole Hutchinson, Jeremy Hunter, Josh Wilson, Molly Jones, Alex Channon, Izzy Elkan, Yoanto Wakimin, Lilian Fletcher, Victoria Taylor, Rebecca Hunter and Lily Molyneux. Give thanks that our new leaders are settling in, enjoying children's ministry and building relationships with the children brilliantly. Give thanks for all that the children have learnt in Term 2. Pray for the preparation of Terms 3 and 4 programs. Thank God for Lyndal's dedication and hard work as she oversees this ministry.
SUN 23	Pray for those doing Confirmation classes (23rd/30th July) as they consider foundational parts of Christianity ahead of public declaring faith in Christ. Pray they would be challenged and encouraged to live all the more for Jesus.
MON 24	THE COTTAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE - Pray for some of our team members who are away taking well-earned breaks. Pray they will return to work refreshed. Pray for our clients who are struggling, particularly for those who are being impacted by financial struggles this year.
TUE 25	GUMTREES PLAYTIME - Praise God that we continue to have a good number of children and their carers coming along each week. Pray God would use playtime to bring people to himself. Pray for more volunteers to help out with the running of the group on Wednesdays.

WED 26

MISSION - CHRIS AND KAREN WEBB - BROOME PEOPLES CHURCH

- Give thanks we were able to have three weeks of annual leave in April, that we spent visiting family in Sydney and family in Coffs Harbour. Praise God for the opportunities we have to help people understand God's word and live it out in their lives. Pray people's knowledge of the truth will lead to godliness as we work through Titus in church and ladies Bible study. Pray people will grow in confidence and peace as we look at what the Bible says about identity at Fellowship on Tuesday nights. Pray the men of our church will grow in their commitment to live for Jesus as we read parts of the Gospels in men's group. Pray the children will understand their valuable place in God's purposes as Karen teaches them the overarching story of the Bible in Sunday School. Thank God for the financial support that allows us to serve in Broome.

THU 27

Thank God for our Wardens Sarah, Stuart and Tim and those who serve on our parish council, Bob, Tones, Jeanette, Christina, Ellie, Meredith, Molly and Al.

Give thanks for their commitment to serve. As they meet tonight, pray God would give them wisdom, insight and godly judgement regarding decisions in the parish and use of finances.

FRI 28

LIGHTHOUSE - Give thanks for a wonderful team of leaders who faithfully lead our children of all ages every Friday afternoon during school term with joy and love. Thank God for each of them: Monnie Clarke, Lizzy Pienaar, Paul White, Sarah McGregor, Rebecca Hunter, Laurie Bronsveld, Maisy Jones and Lyndal who oversees this ministry. Give thanks for a fun term 2 looking at an overview of the Bible. Give thanks for the awesome 'Break-it-Down' night last month. Pray for more male leaders to join us.

SAT 29

THE VILLAGE CHURCH (TVC) in Jindabyne - Pray seasonal workers who join our church will get established into our rhythms and form fast and life-giving friendships. Pray as we start our teaching series on Paul's letter to the Philippians, that God will use this to instil a robust appreciation of how the gospel leads us to joy and contentment in all circumstances.

SUN 30

Pray for **Neil preaching at Saturday, Morning and Night Church, for Philip preaching at Traditional Church and Bill Graham at WAC.** Pray the Spirit guides each of them as they speak on 1 Corinthians 12:1-31 & 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

MON 31

Pray for safety for those citizens who are still living in **Ukraine** with nowhere else to escape to, many of them children and the elderly, who are forced to live under constant shelling, hiding in basements and bomb shelters. Pray there will be plenty of food and clean drinking water from volunteers and warehouses where humanitarian aid is being distributed. Give thanks for the volunteers and organisations who risk their lives to provide aid in Ukraine. Pray for the ongoing problems after the rupture of the Nova Kakhovka dam in southern Ukraine, as the rise in water levels has led to the "mass death" of animals, fish, plants and destruction of buildings. Pray for protection from further erosion and destruction to habitats from the deposition of sediments and pollutants and against the land mines that now have been dislodged.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pray for those expecting-

Grace and Tom Dearden (Morning Church), Chloe Cate and Jordan Molyneux (Night Church), TJ and Hannah Horton (Anne and Michael Horton's Daughter), Helen and Marcus Druitt (Morning Church) and Verity and Dave Andrew (Morning church).

Congratulations- to Daina and Scott Cunningham on the birth of Olivia!

Those unwell-

Larry Tolnay
Trish Clifton
Barbara Temperley
Anne Robinson

Also for the families of Sean Foley and Alison Pryde in their bereavement.

NEW-ISH LUNCH // UPDATE MY DETAILS

CONNECTION POINT.



I'M NEW HERE // DISCOVER // BELONG



FREE GUEST WIFI

NETWORK: STFAITH'SGUEST
PASSWORD: Narrabeen

COMING UP...

CHILLOUT

12th-14th of July

NEWISH LUNCH

23rd July 12.30pm,
register via the
connection point

CONNECT WITH US // WWW.STFAITHS.CHURCH // 9971 1048 // OFFICE@STFAITHS.ORG.AU

