

ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

MARCH 2024

COMMUNITY MAG



MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

BEN MOLYNEUX



Dear Church,

Our year is now well underway, and it's been such an encouragement and joy to see our usual ministry groups, outreach events, community groups and church gatherings beginning to thrive. Your commitment to one another is a great encouragement to our staff team and I trust you've been challenged and encouraged by our time together and your fellowship with one another. In this month's edition of our Community Mag, please take the time to prayerfully read and rejoice in the report Jake has provided on our recent Soulies SummerCamp as well as hearing from Molly and Dave who were part of beach missions in January!

I also commend to you our plans for Easter services, coming up at the end of March. This year, Good Friday and

Easter Sunday services will be our normal Sunday service times – 8am, 10am, 4pm & 6:30pm.

This month, I'd like to ask you to help us by completing a short survey on mental ill health. The problem of mental ill health in Australia is something most of us deeply care about. Many of us have either suffered in some way from or have supported others who have experienced mental ill health. Statistically, 42.9% of Australians between the ages of 16 and 85 have experienced mental ill health at some time in their lives. Many of these people are family and friends and many of these people are also in our churches.

Here at St Faith's our heart's desire is for church to be place where those experiencing mental ill health will feel welcomed and well-supported, so they

too can grow as disciples as Jesus. As a result, our diocese established a mental health working group last year to 'empower local churches to better support people experiencing mental ill health and emotional distress'.

The first two projects of this group are:

1. The creation of an online 'mental health hub' to provide resources for churches, with an expected launch in the coming months.
2. A survey of the people in our churches to gain helpful insight and research.



You can access the survey by using the QR code. You will notice that there is no requirement for personal disclosure of mental ill health, and the survey can be done quickly and easily with space provided for more detailed comments if you would like.

Gaining good information will greatly help the success of this new working group, which in turn will help us as a parish to take steps forward in providing helpful resources, training and encouragement to support and love those experiences mental ill health in our community.

Thanks for your participation and help in these efforts.

In Christ,

Ben



JAKE MADDER

In January, our Soulies community kicked off the year together and headed down to Waterslea on the Shoalhaven River for a great week of fellowship around the Bible and a heap of fun. We dove into the book of James and considered its challenge to us as Christians – to Be Real as followers of Jesus. It was a great time of encouragement for all of us as we looked at how Wisdom, Faith and Action are all key parts of a real and living faith that we, as disciples of Jesus who are growing in maturity, have the opportunity to share with the people around us.

We saw again and again how often the wisdom of the world, (which is our default way of thinking!), looks nothing like God's wisdom. Not only are the two in conflict, but our version of what's good generally leads to the opposite! James doesn't pull his punches either – even Christians have work to do in learning to trust that God's wisdom, and His way of living, really is better than ours. Knowing that isn't enough – we need to put it into action! We continually need God's help to reorder our perspective of life and what's good – and that's often a hard process to submit to, full of tests and trials. Thankfully, God wants to help!

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

James 1:2-5



Our time in James was full of meaty challenges and wonderful encouragements from the God who is at work in every Christian, maturing us as disciples of Jesus so that we might share His wisdom with a Northern Beaches that desperately needs it.

We also had almost half of camp (!) show up at 7am each morning for our Soul Revival Bible Study sessions (the promise of access to the coffee machine had nothing to do with it, we swear). Over the course of four mornings, Dave and Jen took our youth through some of the Old Testament examples of faith in action – real people who really trusted God in really hard times. It was awesome to see so many of our youth keen to dive into God’s Word! Even better was the way many responded to it, and came away from camp with a fresh resolve to be real as disciples of Jesus, and to put their faith into action.

The fun was non-stop too – we swam, ran, went donutting behind the boat on the river, built rafts, rolled in slime, got messy, made thousands of bead bracelets, and of course, we topped it all off with our dress up dance party on Wednesday night. All of this meant that heaps of us got the chance to meet and spend time with new friends over the course of camp, praying together in Prayer Triplets at the end of each

night and working together in Tribes to come out victorious in our Survivor challenges (we’re still trying to figure out how Banda came out on top). You can check out photos from our week at **soulies.co/sc24photos**

All in all, Summercamp 2024 was an awesome time away together. A huge shout out to our leaders who put in months of effort and planning to make everything fun and actually happen, our AV team and Resource Leaders who helped make sure everything ran smoothly, and our camp parents who were the stop gap for just about everything else.

It’s awesome to see all different ages and stages getting involved in discipling our Soulies youth for life as followers of Jesus – we’re already pumped for next year!

At Soulies, we want to see a Northern Beaches that knows Jesus! Please keep praying for our youth – that they’d grow together in maturity as disciples of Jesus and continue to carry His love and wisdom with them as they go out into their schools and communities.

If you’d like to know how you can get involved in, or support, our Soulies Youth Ministry, we’d love to chat.

Please contact Jake at
jakeestfaiths.org.au



BEACH MISSION

Over the summer break, a few of us went up to Port Macquarie to do beach mission called Summerlife. We ran kids' activities in the afternoons and a cafe at night, and the whole team shared testimonies throughout the week.

Thank God for the many conversations we had with people really searching for Jesus. HEAPS of people – especially kids – took home bibles and some were linked in with local churches, so pray that God would continue to work in them.

Overall, it was a very fruitful and encouraging week of sharing the gospel and we trust that God will continue to work in the people who came along.

Beach mission is a such great way to start the year – to keep evangelism on the agenda – and I'd like to encourage you to prayerfully consider joining a team next year!

MOLLY JONES



Each year over the New Year's period, myself and the Summerlife Beach Mission crew visit the busy town of Kiama on the South Coast for 11 days, seeking to love the community and meaningfully engage with locals and tourists with the mission of sharing the gospel.

The team spend afternoons and evenings on the main beachfront playing footy with beachgoers, face painting, beading, surfing, talking, playing live music and much more - all with the aim of creating opportunities to foster relationships and to engage in conversations that will point people to Christ.

We can thank God for the hundreds of conversations that we had, the many bibles that we handed out, and for the many people who we were able to plug into local churches as they continue exploring what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

Beach mission is the perfect opportunity to serve Christ and to be encouraged alongside your brothers and sisters in Christ as you go out, spreading the most life changing news with people who desperately need to hear it. I would encourage you to prayerfully consider joining a team for next summer and serving in this incredible ministry!

DAVE LAWSON

Nicole & Luke
Hutchinson

MEET A MEMBER

FAST FOUR

FAV MOVIE

L - Aliens (the 2nd one)

N - Lord of the Rings
(Extended)

FAV HOLIDAY DESTINATION

L - Israel

N - Japan/Switzerland/
Norway/Austria (I couldn't
decide on one)

FAV BEACH

L - North Narrabeen

N - Mona Vale

FAV COFFEE SHOP

L - I don't drink coffee

N - I don't drink coffee
either

What do you guys get up to during the week?

L - I am a Primary School Teacher, currently teaching Year 4. I also like to go for runs and swims after work.

N - I spend my week making promotional content as a Creative Producer for Sky News. I also like to hang out with my husband, watch movies, eat great food and play boardgames.

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

L - The loving and caring community of believers that have helped shape my faith and shape the faith of others.

N - I really love having a place where I can feel loved and supported no matter what stage of life I'm going through. I have a big soft spot for my Community Group too. It's also a privilege being able to meet with other people who love God.



What ministries are you involved with at St Faith's?

L - I lead a Young Adults Community Group with my wife.

N - I co-lead the Kindy to Year 2 kids at 4pm church and also co-lead a Young Adults Community Group with my husband.

What can we as a church be praying for you both?

That we will continue to help members of God's family grow in their love and relationship with Christ and to keep encouraging and supporting them through their Christian journeys.

For our marriage to continue to grow in God's love and become more God-centred each day

MARCH PRAYER DIARY

FRI 1

MISSION - CHRIS AND KAREN WEBB - BROOME PEOPLES CHURCH - Give thanks for the ten years we have been in Broome as CMS workers. Praise God for the opportunity to live and serve in Broome and for the many ways that he has sustained us over the years. Give thanks for the connections and relationships with people all over the Kimberley region which continue to lead to many opportunities to share the gospel, teach the Bible and encourage Aboriginal Christians as they follow Jesus. Pray God will continue to make us useful for his kingdom here. Sadly, 2024 has started with many deaths in Aboriginal families around the Kimberley. Ask God to help Kimberley people cope with the weight of loss upon loss, and pray that the good news of Jesus will give hope and salvation to grieving family members. Give thanks the children have settled into school again (years 5, 7 and 9). Pray for Chris as he's on a trip at Wangkatjunga community today until 3rd March to help with a weekend of Bible teaching for local Christians. Ask God to help Chris to prepare well and to have a safe and fruitful trip to Wangkatjunga.

SAT 2

PARISH COUNCIL - Thank God for those who served on the Parish Council over the last 12 months. Give thanks for Bob, Tones, Jeanette, Christina, Ellie, Meredith, Molly, Al and our Wardens, Sarah, Tim and Stuart. Pray for our AGM (10th March). Ask that God would raise up wise and godly people to serve on Parish Council and as Wardens and Nominators.

SUN 3

Pray for **endurance as Ben preaches across all services at St Faith's today**. Pray for clarity as Ben explains the passage on Matthew 5:33-48. Pray for Colin preaching at WAC that his sermon will be encouraging for everyone.

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| MON 4 | JESUS CLUB – Pray for our gathering to go well and to bring the love and acceptance of Jesus clearly to our members and their carers, friends and family. Give praise for Kathryn returning after a break and pray for Dylan, Ben and Brendan who are our regulars and have become part of the family of Jesus Club. We have the blessing of an additional leader – Natalie who has integrated smoothly so please give praise for her. Pray for God to increase our presence, numbers and leaders to offer the whole of The Northern Beaches a place for adults to come who find themselves on the margins due to any type of disability. |
| TUE 5 | Give thanks for the 20 first time visitors who came to OPEN HOUSE CHURCH , four of whom signed up to Discover. Give thanks for the many church members who invited friends to come and for those who were involved in doorknocking the neighbours. Give thanks that St Faith's is seen in a positive light in our community. Pray that God will use our church to see a Northern Beaches that knows Jesus. |
| WED 6 | Give thanks that THE COTTAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE is back up to full swing for the year and we are ticking over nicely. The Crows Nest counselling room will be out of action somewhere between 2 and 6 weeks. Pray we will find a room for our Counsellor to use for her client sessions that puts both her and her clients at ease, while building works are completed. Pray for all our clients, as they work their way through tricky and often painful issues, for growth and healing. |
| THU 7 | WAR VETS – Pray for the Veterans coming to the Discovery Course and Merrisa. Pray for Bob who has announced his retirement and will be finishing up as a Chaplain on 7th April. Pray for another suitable Chaplain to fill the position. Pray for Bob and Lesley as they prepare to move to Perth where they have children and grandchildren. |
| FRI 8 | NPSRE CROMER CAMPUS – Give thanks to God that over 40 students from Year 7 have enrolled in SRE. Pray Phil will be able to arrange timetables and classes for them all. Pray that God blesses Phil's time in the school with fruitful gospel-based discussions. |

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| SAT 9 | <p>MISSION – IRWAN AND CATHERINE AFES AT UNI OF WOLLONGONG – Pray that our Uni Bible Group and FOCUS connected with new students during UOW Club's day. Pray for our FOCUS camp on 15th-17th March – that we may get to know the students better, and build cohesion with existing and new students and that we can kick-off "Meet Jesus" through reading John's gospel to both believers and non believers. Pray for our Easter Mission on 25th-28th March. Pray for Irwan as he takes the baton from James who has just finished up with AFES Wollongong, running the intensive weekly training in evangelism and ministry and training trainees in preparing for the Mid-Year-Conference. Ask for wisdom for Irwan in overseeing and mentoring trainees in reaching out at the university's residential accommodations: Koolobong, I-House and Campus East. Pray for S from Saudi whom Irwan met during O-week, that God will open his heart willing to meet Jesus through reading and discussing John's gospel.</p> |
| SUN 10 | <p>Pray for the ST FAITH'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING today at 12pm. Ask God to raise up wise and godly people to serve on Parish Council, Wardens and Nominators. Pray for Ben, as he chairs the meeting, and that all attending have a spirit of co-operation, and a passion to see Christ known and honoured.</p> |
| MON 11 | <p>MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING – Thank God that we can freely gather together each month and pray in unity for matters relating to our church, our community and our world. Give thanks that our God is loving and that we can come before him with our concerns.</p> |
| TUE 12 | <p>WAC – We pray the Easter Services will be helpful, encouraging, and challenging to Warriewood regulars and our invited resident-guests. We offer grateful thanks that the coming to and receiving of Jesus, transforms life and destiny of ordinary people who follow him. Keep us in this hope that we have grasped.</p> |
| WED 13 | <p>Give praise and thanks to God for always walking with us at TCP. May God be glorified in all we do and may His love shine through all our volunteers and point our guests to heaven so they will want to know God and desire to have a personal</p> |

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| CONT'D | relationship with Him. May the volunteers be salt and light as they connect with the guests. Give thanks for Neil as he leads the Bible Study group each week. Pray for those attending to grow deeper in their faith as they look into God's word together. Pray more guests will join the group. Pray for those guests who are suffering in many different ways. Pray they may feel comfort in Jesus. |
| THU 14 | MISSION - DAN AND LIV WEBSTER - NAMIBIA EVANGELICAL AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY - We are grateful that God has given us so many good things to do and in the midst of our busyness, God does his work. Ask God that in the midst of tiredness and busyness we would not be grumpy and sullen and we keep pressing on with the work he has put before us and that we rejoice and are thankful when we see such clear evidence of his work among us and through us also. Pray for our church's evangelism efforts and give thanks that God brings random people to our church. Thank God that he is truly at work, powerfully but quietly establishing his kingdom. Give thanks Liv's old Bible study group that she no longer attends continues to thrive. Give thanks that Liv's new boss is so helpful. |
| FRI 15 | Pray for LIGHTHOUSE as they meet together on Friday afternoons during school term. Pray that it would be a great time of encouragement and learning for the children. Pray the regulars will be encouraged to invite their friends. Give thanks for the Lighthouse leaders; including Molly Jones, Jayden Horsley, Sarah MacGregor, Lizzie Pienaar, Maisy Jones, Laurie Bronsveld, Zoe Castle, Jonah Larrea, Lily Molyneux and Molly MacGregor. Give thanks for their commitment to teach and care for their groups each week. Pray we continue to reach many local children with the good news of Jesus this coming year. |
| SAT 16 | Give thanks for the 20 GUESTS WHO HAVE COME TO DISCOVER so far and for the fantastic gospel conversations that have happened. Pray that God's Spirit will convict hearts of sin, and the need to find salvation in Christ alone, and that they will either grow in their faith, or come to find salvation for the first time. |

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| SUN 17 | Pray for Ben as he speaks from God's word at all services this weekend. Pray Ben will communicate this part of God's word well, such that it would challenge those listening. Pray for Bill Graham preaching at WAC this morning. Pray he will speak clearly and faithfully from God's Word. |
| MON 18 | ESL – We thank our Heavenly Father for a great start to 2024. We give thanks for the many returned students, and in the first three weeks, we have also had seven new students. Pray that we will teach them English well, that we will be sensitive to their needs and that we will show them Christ's love in word and deed. Pray that the Spirit will open their hearts to the gospel and that many will stay for the Bible lesson. |
| TUE 19 | Let us pray for the children at GUMNUT KINDERGARTEN that they may continue to learn and grow in a safe and nurturing environment filled with joy and curiosity. Pray our educators be blessed with wisdom, patience, and creativity as they guide and teach our children, inspiring them to explore, discover and thrive. Pray for a spirit of collaboration and partnership among educators, families, and the community, working together to create a positive and enriching learning environment for our Gumnut children. Give thanks for the love, dedication, and resilience to all Gumnut educators and may they feel appreciated and valued for their contributions. |
| WED 20 | GUMTREES PLAYTIME – Pray for our play group at St Faith's to continue to be an outreach to parents and their children, in our community. Give thanks for those who help coordinate the group, including Tilly, Michelle, Kelly, Linda, Karen and others. Pray the regulars and children from our church will shine the light of Jesus as they develop relationships with other families at playgroup. |
| THU 21 | QUILTING AND NEEDLEWORK CLUB – Pray for this group who meet weekly. Pray for stamina for Judith who coordinates the group; pray she and the other Christian members reflect the character of Jesus as they interact with the many members from the community who come along. |

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| FRI 22 | Give thanks for the youth leaders who give their time, energy and efforts to serving the young people in our church at SOULIES on Friday nights. Pray they will grow deeper relationships with God and form good relationships with each other. Pray for many young people to attend each week; for the leaders to be energised and sustained and for the message of the gospel to be communicated well and truthfully. |
| SAT 23 | Pray for the ST FAITH'S KIDS PROGRAMS that run on Sundays during the 10am and 4pm Services. Give thanks for the leaders who faithfully volunteer to care and teach about Jesus through fun activities. Give thanks for Molly Jones, Yoanto Wakimin, Jadon Horsley, Alex Channon, Lillian Fletcher, Rebecca Hunter, Victoria Taylor, Nicole Hutchinson, Jeremy Hunter, Nelle Green, Monnie Clarke, Hannah Sillls, Milo Druitt, Jonah Larrea, Lily Molyneux and Jasmine Berrill. Give thanks for Lyndal who coordinates this ministry. |
| SUN 24 | Pray for Marcus as he preaches on the passage Matthew 7:1-12 at all services at St Faith's and for Ben preaching at WAC today. Pray that the sermons will encourage the members of the congregations to grow in their faith and service of God. |
| MON 25 | Thank God for the great news of EASTER , that God has come to rescue his people through Jesus. Pray for the preparations for Easter, that advertising will bring many people along to our services and that they will be impacted by the message of God's saving grace. Pray for boldness for all of us inviting friends to the various services this weekend. |
| TUE 26 | WORLD – Pray for peace and hope to those around the world who are suffering, from injustice, natural disasters, war and poverty. Pray for peace and protection for those living through such difficult times that they will find hope and comfort in Jesus. |
| WED 27 | Give thanks for our COMMUNITY GROUP LEADERS who commit themselves each week to teaching and caring for the members in their group. Pray for wisdom and guidance for the leaders as they prepare and lead the group each week. Pray that each group will connect well and be engaged in meaningful discussions, as we learn more of the character of God and his purposes for us. |

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| THU 28 | Give thanks for all our SRE teachers and the children in their class. Pray they will have a wonderful time in God's Word this year. Pray the schools will be welcoming of the SRE teachers and the children will listen well to what is being taught about Jesus. Give thanks for Peggy King and Christine Lanceley who are co ordinating scripture. Pray the students will accept invitations to the Easter services and that they encourage their parents to bring them to church this weekend. |
| FRI 29 | GOOD FRIDAY – Thank God as we pause and reflect on his amazing love for us, shown in Jesus' death this Good Friday. Pray that over Easter many people from the community attend church and they come to know and believe in Jesus Christ and celebrate with us the wonder of his love. Pray we are welcoming and show Christ's love appropriately. Pray for Neil as he preaches across all services at St Faith's and for Colin at WAC, to speak clearly and the message to be encouraging. |
| SAT 30 | Give thanks for the many talented MUSICIANS, THE CHOIR AND ORGANIST AT ST FAITH'S and how they share their gift of music through instrument and voice each Sunday. Give thanks for the band leaders as they direct the team to deliver music that glorifies Jesus and encourages us all by singing together. Pray that God would continue to strengthen and equip them as they serve in this way. |
| SUN 31 | EASTER SUNDAY – Give thanks for God's saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ and that we can celebrate his victory over death. Pray many people from the community attend church to celebrate the Risen Lord today. Pray for Ben preaching at St Faith's and Colin at WAC, that God will speak through them, especially to those who are visiting with us today. |

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pray for those expecting-

Jessie & Jono Ok (10am Church),
and Fiona & James Kirsop.

Congratulations- on the
engagement of Alistair and Bec
(4pm church)

Those unwell-

Larry Tolnay
Larry Tolnay
Trish Clifton
Barbara Temperley
Anne Robinson
Heidi Schwarz
Max and Imelda Krause
Janet King

COMING UP...



LEADER'S MEETINGS

Sunday May 19th - Meeting #1
Sunday June 16th - Meeting #2
Tuesday July 16th - Meeting #3



KYGH24 'IN THE BEGINNING'

12-14 APRIL • 19-21 APRIL • 26-28 APRIL • 27-29 SEPTEMBER

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EASTER

AT ST.FAITH'S



www.stfaiths.church

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GOOD FRIDAY

Jesus Brings Life
EASTER SUNDAY

Service times both days -

8AM 10AM 4PM 6.30PM

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