

ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

JULY 2024

COMMUNITY MAG



Welcome

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

BEN MOLYNEUX



Dear Church,

Winter is here and we're halfway through the year! I find the simple fact of the timing and certainty of the four seasons of the year quite remarkable. In April, my family and I had the opportunity to head into the warmer climate of Indonesia. When we left Australia, it was warm with a few remnants of summer still hanging around. But when we returned we quickly discovered that summer had disappeared, Autumn was in full swing, and Winter was just on the horizon. God's sovereignty over seasons are no surprise for, "He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down." (Psalm 104:19) Isn't it remarkable that they come at the right time every year!!

Seasons also remind us that God has us in store for us different seasons in life. Maybe for many of us it's a season of stability where things are ticking along and the days are consistent and good - God is in control. For others, it might be a season of hardship or affliction where your circumstances or sickness are an unwanted companion - God is still in control. Still for others it might be a season of change where work, relationships, and the 'normal' routines of life are disrupted. You guessed it, God is in control of that too!

As a church we're about to navigate a season of change together. Our hearts are thankful for the friendship, care, and example among us in the Souter family. Neil and I had the privilege of studying at theological college

together, visiting Israel together, and serving on staff side by side here at St Faiths. After 19 years of Neil being on staff, we're heading into a big change. What has been 'normal' is about to change. But guess what? God is in control, and I'm so thankful for that.

I'm thankful to God for the season we've had and I'm confident that as Neil and his family head north to Avalon, that God has a new season in store for their new church family, and for us as God's church here at St Faith's. As the writer of Ecclesiastes so famously put it, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Please continue to pray for the Souter family as they settle into Avalon, and pray also for us as we look to appoint new

members of our staff team in the future months. Pray that God would give wisdom and discernment to those involved in that process.

The winter season also reminds us that CHILLOUT is just on the horizon. This is a week of gospel mission for our church and an opportunity to reach, not only children, but their families as well. Please ask that God would pour out his blessing on this mission week, and pour out his Spirit into the hearts of children and their families as they hear the good news of Jesus - that he is the King of this jungle!

God bless

Ben



EQUIP 2024

What an awesome time we had at EQUIP'24! With just shy of 100 women from across all our congregations at St Faith's, and despite the rain bucketing down outside, we all had a warm, wonderful day of bible teaching and fellowship and amazing food!!

This year's theme was - Hope for the Weary, focussing on Revelation 1-5. We enjoyed 3 talks from Di Warren, Annabel Nixey and Karen Lawson-Smith and Mathea Yeung.

Di took us through a really helpful and comprehensive look at Revelation 1. She taught us that the key to understanding Revelation is Jesus! We have in Revelation a dramatic retelling

of the gospel using pictures! The one big thing I took from this talk was that Jesus - the Son of Man - is among the 7 lamp stands. The 7 lamp stands is a picture of the complete earthly church. Jesus reigns NOW! He is with us NOW! So, although we may feel weary living the Christian life - Jesus is with us in it! He is also sovereign over everything that is happening! Nothing will stop God's plans!

We were then given an overview of the letters to the 7 churches by Karen and Mathea - again the number 7 representing complete, hence these letters are for all the churches of the world, including us too!



Finally, Annabel shared with us from Revelation 4&5, and explained for us the vision that John sees, as he is given the opportunity to look inside the door to heaven. In heaven we see Jesus, the lamb that was slain, ruling at the right hand of the Father! This is ultimate reality! We were encouraged to live our lives with the door to heaven OPEN. To remember that Jesus is ruling NOW and is in control of all things NOW, despite what our circumstances might be. If we live like this, then we have a new hope, a new purpose and a new life!

It was such a fantastic day! Lots to think about and reflect on. It was also so great to see women of all

ages sharing together and getting to know one another! Such a wonderful opportunity. Thank you so much to those who helped out on the day - from making morning tea, helping with registration, technology, making coffee and particularly to Ben, Jordan and Dave who organised and cooked all the food for lunch and Nick, Mal and Michael who helped with serving and clean up, and Samantha on sound!

Keep your eyes and ears out for the date for INSPIRE'24! It will be later this year and another great opportunity for our women to get together across our congregations!

Rosemary MacGregor

JULY PRAYER DIARY

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- MON 1 Praise God for **JESUS CLUB'S REGULAR MEMBERS** Ben, Dylan, Kathryn, Brendan & leaders Dan, Nat, Bec, Anne, Michael, Steve and Natalie. Pray for continued meetings each month and good health for all, as they carry this beautiful community group for adults with any disability to be shown the love of Jesus. Give thanks for those who cater so caringly each month for the group.
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- TUE 2 Give thanks to God for a great term 2 in **ST FAITH'S KIDS**. Give thanks K-5 learned so much from the Book of Leviticus and how much God wants to live as our friends and that Jesus has made this possible. Give thanks Preschoolers and Tiny Tots have been learning the wonderful truth that God keeps every promise he makes. Praise God for our leaders who have worked hard to make difficult learning clear for the kids.
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- WED 3 **THE COMMUNITY PANTRY** – Praise God for his continued provisions for this Ministry. Give thanks for the volunteers and their serving hearts as they interact with the guests. Pray more people will join this Ministry and Jesus' love shines through. Pray for those attending the Bible Study before the meal, that they will continue to grow in their faith. Pray for everyone to be resilient to the various colds and virus strains that are so prevalent. Pray for healing for those struggling with illness.
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- THU 4 Pray that **CHILLOUT** will be a time where Jesus is shared with our community through God's word and through the actions of his people. Pray for more families who don't know Jesus yet to sign their children up for Chillout. Give thanks for a great group of leaders and the many people who have willingly signed up to serve in other ways at Chillout.
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FRI 5 Thank God for an amazing term 2 at **SOULIES**, looking at how we as a church family, can take our love and give it out to the world. Give thanks for our wider church family who partnered with Soulies in providing clothes for Anglicare. This generous donation will help Anglicare in their pursuit of supporting those people who are in need of support. Pray that as the term comes to a close, that our youth would continue to take their love out into the world, showing Christ's love to others and being a witness to those around them.

SAT 6 **MISSION - IRWAN AND CATHERINE - AFES AT WOLLONGONG UNI** - Pray for our final preparation for MYC and MYC itself on 15-19 July - that we not only grow in the knowledge about His Holy Spirit, but that we will know Him more deeply and listen to His word, and that our life will be transformed by His Holy Spirit through His Word. Pray for students starting in the 2nd semester on 22nd of July, that they will settle in quickly. Pray for Sep, a local Muslim girl who has been in one of the residential college bible study, that God will convict her of His love and Truth of His Word. Pray that Irwan can train one of the female trainee in doing one on one with Sep. Pray for Irwan's eyesight recovery, as he has been experiencing eyesight struggle to focus, in recent couple of months. Pray for Y (a visiting lecturer who is returning soon to her home country) that the Lord will open her heart to accept Jesus as her Lord and Saviour as Catherine read His word with her weekly.

SUN 7 Pray for clarity as Ben starts on the mini series Apostles Creed today, preaching on Psalm 115 and Matthew 11:25-30. Pray that as we listen to what is being said, that we will continue to put our trust in our Father.

MON 8 **ESL** - Give thanks to our Almighty God for the blessings of this past term. Thank Him for every student who has come, for their enthusiasm to learn English and for the sense of community in the classes. Thank God for the students who stay back to read and discuss the Bible. Pray we will be aware of the best way to share the gospel, considering their limited comprehension, and that God will open their hearts to the message of Jesus. Pray for our Team as they have a well earned break in July, that they will be ready to return, refreshed in term three.

TUE 9	<p>Give thanks for GUMNUT'S NEW DIRECTOR BEC LAWSON who started on the 1st July who has many years experience as 2IC at Albert Hall in Freshwater. Give thanks for Steph Reeves who has served as director over the last few years and her faithful leadership. Give thanks for the staff's openness to learn about Christianity and pray for more opportunities to share Jesus with families and educators. Pray also that God will raise up a new Chaplain who will be able to invest more time in Gumnut building relationships.</p>
WED 10	<p>Give thanks for DISCOVER which has finished and for the 8 guests who came. Pray that God's Spirit will continue to prompt them to learn more about Him and that Satan will not snatch the seed that has been sown. Pray that all the Christians who attended will be convicted to take one practical step with someone who doesn't know Jesus, whether it be re-engaging with someone they haven't seen for a while or sharing the gospel.</p>
THU 11	<p>Give thanks for the many years the QUILTING AND NEEDLECRAFT CLUB has been running and the many women who meet each week. Give thanks they can have fellowship and work on projects together. Give thanks for the many charities they support such as the Bear Cottage, Manly Youth and Adolescent Hospital, Samaritans Purse Christmas boxes, Anglicare; and for their annual Quilt Show and Biggest Morning Tea in support of the cancer council research. Pray for good health during these winter months. Give thanks for Judith Baker who oversees this ministry.</p>
FRI 12	<p>LIGHTHOUSE - Thank God for His goodness to us throughout the term. As we've looked at stories Jesus told, we pray that the knowledge passed down to the children would resonate with them, as they continue to be taught and encouraged of the amazing love that God has for us, by sending Jesus down to save us from our sins. Pray for the conviction in people's hearts, that if leading is something God has called them to do, that they would trust God's guidance in that. Pray God would lift up more leaders to join the Lighthouse family in serving Christ's kingdom in this way. Thank God for the willingness and servant hearted nature of our leaders at Lighthouse.</p>

SAT 13

WAC - Give grateful thanks to our God and Father for the testament to his saving grace in Leviticus ... we are amazed at how God provided everything necessary for his ancient people, Israel, to have him with them in their midst - as always he provided the means to deal with their sin ... for us that is in his Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. With Thomas Cranmer we pray ... O Lord, you are more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you are inclined to give us more than we desire or deserve. Because we have taken refuge in Jesus's saving work on our behalf, give us the protection and joy for which it would be presumptuous otherwise to ask.

SUN 14

Pray for God's Spirit to guide Ben as he preaches at all services this weekend from Philippians 2:1-11 and Romans 1:1-7. Pray we will continue to stand firm and follow Jesus faithfully, and for those visiting to have their hearts softened and come to know Jesus as their Saviour.

MON 15

NPSRE CROMER CAMPUS - Pray that Scripture will be permitted for the year 9's in 2025 who are already doing Scripture in Year 8 this year. Pray for God's hand to be over Cromer High in the midst of all its challenges. Pray God will work in the hearts of all Phil's students so that they all come to a personal relationship with Him and grow in their faith.

TUE 16

MISSION - CHRIS AND KAREN WEBB - BROOME PEOPLES CHURCH - Thank God for a good time of annual leave back in April and that Chris and the boys had a great adventure going back to the village in PNG where Chris grew up. Give thank that Karen and Emily could visit family in NSW. Ask God to be working in the lives of the men and women who come to Bible study each week. Pray that the stories and instruction, reading from 1 Kings with the women and 1 Corinthians with the men, that these books will help people trust Jesus more, endure hardship and be a faithful witness for Jesus to those around them. Ask God to bless the preparations for the Kimberley Christian Fellowship Convention which will be held on 12th-14th July. Give thanks for the former AIM missionary Jonathan Wright who will be travelling from NSW to be the guest speaker in Noonkanbah community. Pray many people will attend and be spurred on by the preaching and time together. Thank God for

CONT'D	the opportunity to have a pastoral visit from the CMS regional director, Elizabeth Richards. Pray the reflections and discussions will help Karen and Chris to keep serving in a sustainable and wise way.
WED 17	CHILLOUT DAY 1 – Pray for Chillout Camp which kicks off this morning and continues tomorrow and Friday morning. Pray for sunny weather for these three days, bringing warmth and brightness. Give thanks for Lyndal and the team of volunteers for all their hard work in the 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 and for the children to have a strong sense of connection and belonging.
THU 18	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 the program runs smoothly and activities are engaging and received well. Pray many parents will 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 19	CHILLOUT DAY 3 – Pray for the Chillout Camp as they wrap up today. Give thanks for the opportunity to be able to run another children’s camp this year, so that children in the community who don’t know Jesus yet were able to hear the good news about Jesus. 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 20	THE VILLAGE CHURCH (TVC) in Jindabyne – Give thanks for the ministry of Glen Balmer – a lay preacher at The Village Church.

CONT'D	Give thanks that God sustained and empowered Glen while the McGraths were at the BCA Field Staff Conference last month.
SUN 21	CHILLOUT CHURCH – Pray many Chillout children and their families will come along to church today and feel warmly welcomed. Pray the service will run smoothly, for clarity, simplicity and truth for those who are speaking. Pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the children and their families hearts and minds, as they hear the Good News about Jesus. Pray for safety in the activities after church and for good conversations for the parents. Give thanks for all those serving today on BBQ, kitchen and the children's activities. Pray for good conversations after church.
MON 22	Give thanks THE COTTAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE has a team of 12 counsellors currently working to provide care for those who are hurting and give thanks for the Board who oversee this ministry. Ask God to raise up more members to join the Board as three members have moved on. Pray for the right people to come on the Board who will oversee and steer this wonderful organisation forward with wisdom and care.
TUE 23	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.
WED 24	Give thanks for the many parents, carers, children and babies that have joined GUMTREES PLAYTIME . Give thanks for Tilly and the gifts God has given her as she leads this group. Pray for opportunities for Church members to share their faith and that invitations to Church events may be accepted.
THU 25	Give thanks for the PARISH COUNCIL and for those who serve in this way, including Al, Bob, Christina, Jeanette, Luke, Max, Molly, Tones and for our Wardens Sarah, Stuart and Tim. As they meet tonight, ask God for wisdom and guidance in all matters affecting the church.
FRI 26	MISSION – DAN AND LIV WEBSTER – NAMIBIA EVANGELICAL AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY – Pray for Dan and Liv who are fatigued from the work that is to be done in Namibia. Pray that they would work from a place of rest, not toiling

CONT'D	to gain the favour of God or people, but because they have God's favour eternally. Thank God that they have rest in God and for slightly slower pace between school terms and NETS semesters. Ask God for good preparation time for both Dan and Liv and that they would take time to rest in the Lord.
SAT 27	Pray for Marcus preaching at all services at St Faith's tomorrow, starting on our new term series in 1 Timothy. Pray for clarity, truth and understanding of God's message to us.
SUN 28	Pray for NEIL SOUTER AS HE PREACHES HIS FIRST SERMON AT ST MARK'S AVALON this morning from James 1. Pray that Neil and family will be welcomed well into Pittwater Anglican and feel at home among the people as they serve there.
MON 29	Give thanks for our volunteer SCRIPTURE TEACHERS IN OUR LOCAL PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS . Pray they are well prepared for third term and the students will be attentive in class and growing in their knowledge of how God loves them. Give thanks for Peggy King and Christine Lanceley who oversee this ministry
TUE 30	Give thanks for our SMALL GROUP LEADERS across the church who give their energy and time in leading people in the study of God's word each week.
WED 31	WORLD - Pray for peace and hope for our world. Pray for those who are affected by natural disasters, struggling with conflict, persecution and poverty. Pray for God's provision, peace and protection . Ask God to provide the practical aid people need in times of emergency. Pray for countries to find diplomatic solutions that will bring harmony between nations and for wars to end.



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CHILLOUT



Chillout is filling up! Over half full! Register now to avoid disappointment. The Leaders are excited! It's going to be a fantastic few days with lots of fun planned! Thank you to those of you who are faithfully praying for Chillout with Roz and Sue! Encourage your friends, neighbours and families to come along. Give them the opportunity to hear the Good News about Jesus! There are more invitation cards on the Kids Welcome Table. Please help yourself and INVITE! INVITE! INVITE! Let's share Jesus with our community!

“He is
before all
things, and
in him all
things hold
together.

COLOSSIANS
1:17

COMMUNITY
NEWS

Pray for those expecting-

Fiona & James Kirsop and
Jake and Kelly Madder.

Those unwell-

Larry Tolnay
Trish Clifton
Barbara Temperley
Anne Robinson
Max and Imelda Krause
Sandra Burgess
Jan Hall
Barbara Storey
Tracy Scarf

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