

ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2025

COMMUNITY MAG



Summertime

2025 - HERE FOR NOW, HOME FOREVER



By Jadon Horsley, Ministry Apprentice

At the end of January, our Soulies crew traveled to the beautiful Watersleigh Youthworks site for Summertime 2025! Over several days, we immersed ourselves in God's Word, diving deep into 1 Corinthians 15 and 2 Corinthians 5 to explore what it means to live here on earth for now while holding firm to the confidence that, as God's children, we have an eternal home that is waiting for us! Through Jake's talks, discussions with each other, prayer squares (and pentagons) and personal reflections, we were encouraged by the incredible hope of the resurrection - both Jesus' victory over death and the promise of our own future resurrection.

We got to see our youth really wrestle with the hope that the resurrection brings - what our bodies and roles will be like in the resurrection and what it means to live with a resurrection perspective here and now. Because even in the face of death (everyone's biggest problem) God gives us hope through the resurrection of His Son. This was so clear in the way they discussed in their year groups, sharing their perspectives on the resurrection, and especially during our Prayer, Praise, and Proclaim night.

Our Prayer, Praise and Proclaim night was a chance for our Soulies crew to put into practice some of the practical ways we'd been encouraged to live out our 'resurrection purpose'. It was a really encouraging night as they had the opportunity to proclaim the resurrection with each other by praying with one another (which they did!) and by praising His name in (many) songs (which they did!). We also got to hear from Lanie and Jai as they proclaimed the power of the Gospel, and shared how Jesus has been transforming their lives - it was awesome to hear how tangibly He's been at work in them. It was such a joy seeing our youth grow in their understanding of the resurrection and respond to it - not just as something to know about, but something that changes our view of the now!

The fun was also non stop! From one timeline to another, our crew embarked on a time travelling mission to fix their team's spaceship. Our games had aliens, pirates, dinosaurs, and, culminated in a time warp with pirates riding ON dinosaurs being chased by Roman guards! There was also tubing, time in the pool, a special visit by Bingo Baz and Bingo Shirley (Al & Michelle Madder) and we topped it off with our 'Space Neon' theme night!

All in all, Summercamp 2025 was an absolute blast! It was such a great time away together, and we couldn't have done it without our incredible team. A huge shoutout to our leaders who put in months of effort and planning to make it all happen, our AV team and Resource Leaders who kept everything running smoothly, and our camp parents who were the go-to legends for just about everything else.

One of the best things about camp is seeing members of our church family on mission together - people from all different ages and stages discipling our Soulies youth towards maturity in Jesus. And we're already so pumped for next year!

At Soulies, we want to see a **Northern Beaches that knows Jesus** - so please keep praying for our youth! Pray that they'd keep growing in maturity as disciples, holding onto

their resurrection hope, perspective, and purpose as they go into their homes, schools, friendships, 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 our Youth Minister Jake at jake@stfaiths.org.au or myself at jadon@stfaiths.org.au



THE LONG-TERM FRUIT OF

SRE

By Adam Jolliffe

(Youthworks Children's Ministry Advisor)

Yesterday, as I walked into our evening service a few minutes late, the young lady on welcoming pointed out a man, possibly about 30 years old, who hadn't been to church before, and asked if I could speak to him after the service, "He told me that he's on a spiritual journey", she said.

I was happy to say hi when I could, so I sat across the aisle from him. During the service I noticed that he didn't join in saying the Apostles' Creed nor sing but he did listen to the sermon carefully.

After the service, he made a quick exit, but I was able to catch him near the door. He looked at me, smiled, held out his hand, and said, "Mr Jolliffe, you taught me Scripture when I was in year 2. And you haven't changed much at all."

He'd made my day - twice! (It was twenty years ago and I'm really sure that I have changed.) I'm still teaching in the school that he went to so long ago. We had a quick catch up on where life had taken us over the past twenty years, and then he said that he'd see me next week. It turns out that he had been doing some Bible studies with a Christian friend who encouraged him to go to church.

I often encourage SRE teachers to look to the eternal value of their weekly ministry. Sometimes it's hard to see

the value of what we do; the accreditation and ongoing training requirements can seem onerous; our class times are not always convenient for us; our classes may not always be a joy to teach, and sometimes are the opposite. It's normal for us to occasionally ask, "Should I keep teaching SRE?"

The Scriptures offer much encouragement to look ahead to the good things which God has for his servants, just as Jesus did...

"... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV)

I am not from a Christian home. I came to trust in Jesus through the ministry of SRE. There was no class 'altar call' - just regular teaching of the truths of God's Word which God used to ignite my faith in Christ. When I look back, it's apparent that God used many people at many times to bring me to him. Faithful SRE teachers were a large part of that. As were camp leaders, Christian neighbours, Sunday School teachers, youth group Leaders, rectors and university staff workers.

In God's wonderful plan, he uses various servants at various times to help lost sheep turn back to him (Luke 15:1-7). We are all jars of clay, weak vessels who carry around with us the beautiful treasure of the gospel (2 Corinthians 4:7). Sometimes our SRE lessons don't go as well as we'd hope. When there are challenges in the classroom, we don't always respond with needed wisdom or kindness. We may not always prepare our lessons as well as we'd like. If we are jars of clay, ministry to children really can show us where our cracks are. But, by God's kindness he is pleased to include us, imperfect as we are, in his work of winning souls for eternity.

Last night at church I had a tiny glimpse into the small part which I had played in one boy's life through SRE. Through SRE, I had sown seeds which now, it appears, God is growing.

I received an appreciative smile from someone who recognised me, though I didn't recognise him.

When Jesus returns and takes us home to all his people, I want to personally thank those saints whom God used to teach and nurture my faith. And likewise, I fully expect that there will be many others who see me, smile, hold out a hand and say, "Remember me?" ... "No" ... "Well, let me tell you what God did through you ..." This is the joy set before us. This is the treasure in heaven (Matthew 6:20).

What a privilege it is to teach SRE! How worthwhile it is to persevere and to keep teaching! Every child, church or unchurch, is loved by God. How generous God is to include us in his saving plans.

<https://www.youthworks.net/articles/thelongtermfruitofsre>



February

PRAYER DIARY

SAT 1 Thank God for an amazing **SUMMERCAMP** that was held last month. Give thanks for those volunteers who served and made it all possible, for safety at the camp and joy across the week, as we tackled what the Bible says about resurrection life. Praise God for those who committed or re-committed their lives to Christ while on the camp. Pray they will persevere and continue to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus.

SUN 2 Pray for the upcoming five week **ALPHA COURSE** on Sunday nights after 6.30pm Church, starting on 9th February. Pray the youth will confidently invite their friends to come along and explore the Christian faith, and may those who attend be impacted by the teachings, especially those investigating Christianity.

Pray for the **AUSLAN ALPHA** invites going out to the Deaf Community. We thank God that he is going before us into this mostly unreached community, preparing their hearts to say "Yes, I'd love to come to Alpha!" (starting 13th February)

MON 3 Pray as **ENGLISH CLASSES** return on Monday 10th February. Give thanks to God for the opportunity to teach and get to know students from many countries, who are living as our neighbours on the Northern Beaches. Pray for a good start to the year, for teachers to be energised and enthusiastic, for past students to be keen to return to classes and for new students to hear about our lessons and be keen to come and join in. Pray that we will take every opportunity to reflect Jesus in all we do and say, and that where possible, we will share the gospel and our faith in Jesus.

TUE 4	Pray for our CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES as they head back into a NEW SCHOOL YEAR . Especially pray for our little ones starting Kindergarten, that they will settle in quickly, learn well, make new friends and enjoy their school experience. Pray the teachers have had a refreshing break and are well prepared for another year of teaching. Pray for parents as they manage work and school routines.
WED 5	Give thanks for our COMMUNITY GROUP LEADERS . Pray the leaders are refreshed and energised after the holiday break and that they would be faithful and enthusiastic in leading us in studying God's word together, as we study Matthew 8-12 in term 1.
THU 6	Thank God for our FAITHFUL TEAM OF LIGHTHOUSE AND KIDS CHURCH LEADERS . Pray for them as they lead this year, that God will give them great love for and patience with the children and a deep desire to see them know, live and follow Jesus more and more. Give thanks for Lyndal who oversees the children ministry.
FRI 7	Pray that many youth will return to SOULIES tonight after the summer break and that the leaders are refreshed and ready to teach for another year, looking at the 'Kingdom of God' in Matthew's gospel. Praise God for our leaders who love and serve each week. Pray for energy and enthusiasm that comes from an eternal perspective. Pray for Jake as he oversees Soulies.
SAT 8	Pray for the YOUTHWORKS SRE CONFERENCE being held at St Faith's today. Give thanks for the commitment and dedication of all primary and high school scripture teachers and helpers, as they prepare for the year ahead. Give thanks for the opportunity to connect with other scripture teachers and helpers, in sharing wisdom and knowledge.
SUN 9	MISSION - DAN AND LIV WEBSTER - NAMIBIA EVANGELICAL AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY - Pray for Dan, Liv, Ned, Samuel, William and Reuben as they grieve the passing of Dan's father. Give thanks that they were able to fly back to Sydney in time to see him before he passed away and to help where they could. Thank God for the very real hope of eternal life and a renewed creation. Give thanks for the very tangible experience they have had of church family acting like a family. Pray for NETS and the church as they ramp up to start the year again, for a good crop of new students at NETS and a missional focus at church.

MON 10	Give thanks for the St Faith's MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING on tonight at 7pm, and that members from the different congregations can freely come together in unity in Christ to pray for matters relating to our church, our community and our world. Give thanks for the privilege of prayer at any time and in every circumstance, that our God hears us, is faithful, that He never leaves or forsakes us, and for His promise of eternal life through His Son Jesus.
TUE 11	NPSRE CROMER CAMPUS - Pray that the new Year 7 students are eager to do Scripture and feel settled in their new school. Pray for timetabling and classroom availability for all classes. Pray that Year 8 and 9 students would be eager to continue Scripture and that even more would join the classes. Pray that the school (Teachers, Staff and Parents) would also see the benefit of Scripture and want to know more about why we do this.
WED 12	Pray for MAISY JONES as she begins Year 13 with Youthworks. Pray that the year in college and her time with us at St Faiths is a great year of growing and learning.
THU 13	Pray for AUSLAN ALPHA starting tonight. Give thanks that St Faith's has the honour of being the first church in Australia to offer Auslan Alpha for the Deaf Community. Pray for Anne Horton as she facilitates the group. Pray people will want to return each week to discuss life, faith and meaning from a Christian perspective. (8 sessions in total)



PRAYERMATE™



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FRI 14	Pray for RENEE MILES as she settles in to working with the children and young adult women at St Faith's. Pray that God will continue to work in her and through her for his glory. Also pray for our new Associate Minister NIC TREVENA as he transitions and settles into the new role teaching and serving among us.
SAT 15	MISSION - IRWAN AND CATHERINE AFES AT UNI OF WOLLONGONG - Pray as we prepare for this year's ministry, in reaching and proclaiming Christ's gospel to students as semester 1 starts. Pray for the Orientation Week (24-27 Feb) - that the Lord will bring not only His children but also those He has predestined to be saved in contact with us and may we proclaim His gospel faithfully and boldly with the heart compelled by Christ's love. Pray for the Uni Starter Day - that the Lord will bring the new contacts into fellowship with us, as we share the vision and mission of Uni Bible Group on campus. Pray that the incoming students feel welcome to the group, knowing and growing in Christ. Pray for ministry at the university residential colleges (Koolobong Village, I-House and Campus East) that God will bring students (believers and non-believers) together into a group that want to learn and investigate Jesus.
SUN 16	Pray for PHILIP, JAKE AND BEN PREACHING TODAY AT ST FAITH'S AND AT WAC . Pray for wisdom, truth and clarity as they share God's word in church today. Ask God to prepare the hearts and minds of all who are listening, for understanding and a willingness to live for Jesus.
MON 17	Give thanks for our MAINTENANCE WORKER DAVID LAWSON AND THE TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS who keep our lawns mowed, the gardens beautiful and the building in good repair. Give thanks for their efforts in creating a welcoming space for church services, group meetings and for those visiting St faith's.
TUE 18	Thank God for always providing for THE COMMUNITY PANTRY . Pray the Holy Spirit will work in the hearts of our guests this year and that many of them will come to know the Lord Jesus. Pray for the volunteers to take every opportunity to tell our guests what Jesus means to them. Thank God for all the volunteers who help each week and for our guests to feel loved and welcomed.

WED 19	<p>Give thanks for GUMTREES PLAYTIME where parents, carers and children can come together and form a community in a loving environment. Pray for these friendships to deepen throughout the year and for opportunities to share about Christ. As playtime returns for the year, praise God for our volunteers who help each week and show Christ's love for those who attend. Pray for energy and strength to help them continue to serve in this way. Ask God to raise up more volunteers to lighten the load.</p>
THU 20	<p>WAR VETS - Pray we find suitable people to do an upcoming Christianity Explained Course. Pray for Linda Byron and husband Andrew, Linda, a younger veteran, who is recovering from a brain bleed and will need intensive rehabilitation. Pray for Chaplain Michelle Smith as she reaches out pastorally and evangelistically to many of our residents that she will bring many to Christ. Pray for Chaplain's Keith Walker and Tony Bradford that they will disciple people effectively through the Christian service, Bible Studies and one to one engagement.</p>
FRI 21	<p>WAC - Thank our loving Father for the Services we have been able to hold over the Christmas - New Year period; for members of our village who joined us for the Service of Lessons and Carols on Christmas Day and for the encouragement we have all had in January, as we continued to Discover that the Gospel is embedded in every book of the Bible - our journey of discovery, has so far, taken us from Genesis through to Joshua. Pray that we continue to be empowered by the Holy Spirit to faithfully promote and proclaim the Gospel this year within our Warriewood Brook Community.</p>
SAT 22	<p>Thank God for Bec (Director) and the wonderful educators at GUMNUT KINDERGARTEN. Thank God that we have such a dedicated and gifted team working with the children. Pray that God will sustain them throughout another busy year with the preschoolers. Pray for those children who are starting at the kindy to settle in well and establish new routines.</p>

SUN 23	THE VILLAGE CHURCH (TVC) in Jindabyne – Pray for our children and youth programs in the year ahead. Ask God for the leaders to be strengthened in their faith, and be growing in wisdom, knowledge and love of the Lord.
MON 24	CHRIST OUR REFUGE, BRISBANE – Pray that we will welcome new people to our church effectively in 2025. Ask God to be with Dave Miers as he plans out the teaching program for the year ahead. Thank God for a potential venue for us to host regular morning services – pray for the ongoing venue negotiations. Pray that this venue will help us to offer refuge, security and hope in Christ to more people.
TUE 25	Give thanks for our SCRIPTURE TEACHERS AND HELPERS . Pray for them as they prepare for another year of teaching scripture in local schools. Pray many children will attend scripture classes and that they will listen well to the gospel message. Pray for sufficient teachers to cover all the classes in our area and that the school staff will be welcoming and supportive of the Scripture teachers. Give thanks for Peggy King and Christine Lanceley as they coordinate Scripture again this year.
WED 26	Pray for EXPECTANT MOTHERS in our congregation. Ask God to bless them with a safe and healthy pregnancy and to grant them peace, comfort and reassurance. Give thanks for the precious gift of new life.
THU 27	Pray for our PARISH COUNCIL as they meet tonight for the last time before the AGM next month. Give thanks for the faithful service of our WARDENS Sarah, Stuart and Tim and those on PARISH COUNCIL , Al, Bob, Christina, Jeanette, Luke, Max, Molly, Tones and Minute Secretary Annie. Ask God to guide the Parish Council as they discuss matters that affect the church.
FRI 28	Pray for our UPCOMING AGM (16th March). Ask that God would raise up wise and godly people to fulfill the roles required to keep our church community growing.



**GUESS
WHO
JUST**
turned
30!

No, not Barbara Syme but the Quilting Group she started at her home 30 years ago! As the group began to outgrow her home, opportunity was given to have the group meet weekly at the church as an outreach. This included a short devotion time at morning tea.

I joined the group when I stopped working in 2002 and took over from Barbara in 2006 when she left to undertake further studies.

Somewhere along the way we changed our groups name to St Faith's Quilting and Needlecraft Club to welcome not just quilters but any handcrafts such as knitting and embroidery. We love to share our gifts and enjoy the fellowship.

And yes, Barbara is still coming!



New members always welcome

Judith Baker 0412413590



STAMPS

Sydney Anglican Stamp Society (SASS) collect stamps, old collections and other stamp related material for sale in support of the Church Missionary Society (CMS). 100% of all funds raised goes to CMS in support of their missionaries in Australia and other parts of the world. If you have any of this material tucked away (wondering what to do with it!!) contact Nick Molyneux (0418226631)

LOOKING FOR SOCIAL "golfers"

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**Contact Peter Clouston
(8am service)**

Text/Phone 0425 362 677

Email cloustonpegmail.com



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

COLOSSIANS
1:17



COMMUNITY NEWS

Pray for...

Those expecting -

Ben & Liz Baxter (10am)

Hannah & Blake Dwyer (4pm)

Libby & Charlie Osborne (4pm)

Those unwell -

Trish Clifton

Barbara Temperley

Anne Robinson

Max & Imelda Krause

Sandra & Albert Burgess

Barbara Storey

Tracy Scarf

Margaret Channon

Lyn Foley

Kaye Butler

Bill Hall

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