



together in **mission**

TRANSFORMED 4D Conference

*Do not be conformed
to this world but
be transformed by
the renewing of
your mind*

Romans 12:2

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Pastors' Conference & 4D Conference 2016

Pastors' Conference

Pastors Conference in 2016 continued to grow with over 120 pastors meeting up at the Hahndorf Resort for two days of teaching and learning and building community. We had the

privilege of learning from Karina Kreminski from Morning College in Sydney. Her biblical, academic, and practical approach was appreciated by many. We also had Dale and Edi Stephenson from Crossway Baptist in

Melbourne come and share for a session to teach some 'lessons learnt' in their 31 years of ministry. This was a practical session and very helpful for both pastors and spouses. One of the highlights for me personally was seeing pastors connect and share and pray

for each other – on one occasion I passed two pastors after lunch with their arms on each others shoulder praying for each other.

4D Conference

Dale and Edi shared at 4D Conference on the theme of 'transform'. We gathered with around 300 paid and volunteer leaders from our movement to worship, pray, learn and build relationships with one another. Everyone participated in the sessions, electives and workshops throughout the day. Two quotes that have stayed with me are:

“God is in the business of making us more like Jesus and this will mean change,” Edi Stephenson.

“To see our nation transformed we need to put the mission of God in the hands of ordinary people”, Dale Stephenson.

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Why don't you chew over these two thoughts for a moment and ask God to lead your thinking as you ponder. Are you becoming more like Jesus? Can you look back over the last month, year, decade and see his work in your life? Also, how are you sharing the story of God, being on mission for Him in your everyday life?

A massive thanks to the 4D team, Clovercrest Baptist for hosting us, and for all who engaged in this conversation with us. Next year we will be having a break from 4D Conference. It will return in May 2018.

Mike Stevens

Snapshots : Pastors' Conference





Snapshots : 4D Conference



*“to see
our nation
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we need to put
the mission
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Dale Stephenson

*“God is in the business
of making us more
like Jesus and this will
mean change”*

Edie Stephenson



news from our **Churches**

Better Together:

Baptist Care and Glen Osmond Baptist Church



For over 35 years Glen Osmond Baptist Church has been ministering within the nearby War Veterans Aged Care facility in Myrtle Bank. Many faithful people have served in this ministry over the years, and the gospel impact on residents and staff alike has been immeasurable.

Under the guidance of our chaplain, this ministry involves the weekly church services at the home, visitation of residents by our chaplain and volunteers, and participation in the general activities and life of the home. Our aim has been to share the love and compassion of Jesus in presence, in word, and in deed.

Two years ago Glen Osmond Baptist Church realised that this ministry would benefit from additional resourcing. In ways that we were simply unable to provide as a local church: Enter Baptist Care!

One of Baptist Care's areas of operation is in provision of chaplaincy services. Recognising that an effective partnership model could be achieved with a local church in a shared area of passion – chaplaincy – Baptist Care now employs and trains the chaplain to the War Veterans home, trains our other volunteers in helpful and necessary ways, and administers the ministry that Glen Osmond Baptist Church is now liberated to focus on more fully on the ground.

After 2½ years in the War Veterans Home, Rev. Lynette Aungiers completed her service as chaplain mid-2016. With thanks to God and with much excitement, Rev. Lesley Vince began as the new chaplain within the same month, and has since been off to a great start meeting staff and residents and forming effective, caring relationships.

On Sunday morning 4th September, Baptist Care and Glen Osmond Baptist Church together inducted Lesley into the role of chaplain (pictured). It was a wonderful morning of celebration and thanksgiving to God, for the way He has provided a way forward for this effective ministry into the future. And it was also a great morning to formalise a wonderful ministry partnership between Baptist Care and Glen Osmond Baptist Church.

With Ian Warner from Baptist Care speaking that morning, we were reminded of Jesus' call for us to be people of compassion – to be people who are able, with God's help, to look beyond the 'issues' that may be present in a person's life, to the person within who is uniquely and wonderfully created in the image of God.

Luke Hutchinson, Pastor,
Glen Osmond Baptist Church

Salisbury Baptist Church **Day of celebration**



18th September was a day of celebration to mark the completion of much needed property renewal at Salisbury.

With the guidance of Andrew May (Littlehampton Baptist) and led by a great team of volunteers, the church has been transformed with new gardens, signage, paint (using the colours of our BCSA logo), carpet and furniture. The modern and attractive look has already drawn compliments from the community and the congregation now enjoys a new worship space, café, colourful kids rooms and a brand new youth room.

With this completed, the church feels even more energised in its mission to the local community and as it works in collaboration with Playford, Gawler and Clovercrest churches as part of the Northern Gold initiative to plant more churches in the northern plains.

The rich rewards of stepping out of your comfort zone

When Baptist pastor, David Smith, received an email from Greens Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, he knew he had to act.

"I've been advocating for the rights of refugees for a long time," says the West Beach Baptist pastor, "and I knew it was a blanket appeal but it still really challenged me to 'put my money where my mouth is.'"

The email prompted him to approach Fuse Coordinator Bryan Hughes and sign up to be trained as a 'buddy' to a refugee in Baptist Care's Friendship Program.

David was soon matched to Sayed.

"I found it fascinating to be matched with someone of the Muslim faith," says David. "He's very open and forthcoming and I've learnt a lot about being spiritually and culturally Muslim. He's helped me to understand the difference between Sunni and Shia, and when he found out I was a pastor we've spent a lot of time talking about Christianity as well."

"It's been so rewarding meeting someone so different from me, and not just in religion, but in experiences. He knows about living in places where it's dangerous, he understands how to get by in parts of the world I know nothing about. It's been so eye opening...I never worried we won't have anything to say."

Since arriving, Sayed's anguish at being separated from his family - as well as the physical pain caused by a work injury - have caused him great distress.

"(David is) a very good man...I love him from the bottom of my heart. He's very patient, he speaks to me and is very kind...Psychologists talk to you and charges you. David comes and talks to me as a friend, gives his time to me," says Sayed. "It's very hard to live without your family," he adds quietly.

"My heart just breaks for him," says David. "I can't imagine it."

The separation from his wife and children has been shattering to Sayed. But having a good friend while he's living alone in an unfamiliar country has offered a small measure of comfort.

David cannot change much about Sayed's situation, but he can offer him the things Sayed says he values most: time, kindness, support and friendship. "Each time I meet with (David) it is a happy time," he says. "Each time he is supportive of me."

Fuse volunteers like David are asked to commit to spending at least six hours per month for at least six months with their new friend. But many choose to continue beyond this - as David and Sayed have done.

"I'm really glad I've done it, I'm glad the friendship will continue," says David. "It was really difficult to find the time but **always after I've spent time with Sayed I have a deep sense of satisfaction - that this is a good thing.**"

If you're interested in learning more about the Fuse Friendship Program visit www.baptistcaresa.org.au or contact Bryan Hughes on 8273 7100



David and Sayed visit ARA's "Tell Another's Story Exhibition" at St Peter's Hall where Sayed stands next to a portrait of himself, painted by talented local artist Lara Cooper

Sacred Agents

How not to change the world

In a boat, on a lake, Jesus leans over to his disciples and tells them to be very careful. It's a captain's safety warning, but it's not about life vests, and it's not, as the disciples first thought, about the supplies. 'Be careful,' Jesus warned them. 'Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees and that of Herod.' It's a warning for all who would set sail with Jesus on His mission. But what does it mean?

In a nutshell, the 'yeast' is a simple, little idea. But it spreads through a group and forms a culture. It changes everything. The yeast of these groups were two different kinds, but both concerned with how to rule the world. Well, how to get everyone to behave.

The little idea of the Pharisees seems to be that 'You can get people into line by **shaming** them.' Point out people's mistakes, make a public example of a few, and people will be too mortified to step out of line. This idea hasn't run out of steam, we see plenty of it today. It's the major weapon of our comedian-prophets who try to reinforce a particular framework of values by lampooning those who don't share them. People who don't fully support same-sex marriage are constantly shamed, for example. And does it work? Does shaming transform a society? No. It's a powerful weapon, but at the end of the day, not an effective one.

The Herodians had a different little idea: 'You can get people into line by **coercing** them.' If you have the political power, you can set the rules and police them, and so just **make** people behave, punishing those who don't line up. This is another familiar idea. Many people today seem to think you can shape society by getting the numbers in parliament to pass certain laws - say to legalise or illegalise abortion. But when you get the laws you really want, do you then get the society you really want? No. Coercion is another tool that so many clamour for, but in the end it doesn't build what you want to build. Jesus is setting out with His disciples to change the world, but it didn't - and doesn't - happen through shaming or coercion. Beware of those yeasts, watch out for those little ideas that look like useful tools in your quest as His sacred agents. Don't use them on others, and don't stress when they're tried on you, either!

And it all raises the big question: What is Jesus' yeast? Discuss.

Andrew Turner is our Church Development Facilitator. You can interact with this and other articles on his blog www.sacredagents.net

together in mission **On mission**



Imagine if we heard about a church a long way from our home that was being led by people who had themselves only recently started following Jesus. We hear they were doing things differently to what we have known. Unusual. Unconventional. Should we, or our established Church's representatives go and check it out, to either pull them into line or encourage them in their experimentation and innovation? Could we send the latest Koorong catalogue, worship CDs and a few thousand in cash and hope for the best? Should we avoid interfering and leave them alone to work it out by themselves and trust that with the Spirit they'll be able to develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus?

This was the sort of situation that we read about in Acts¹ and that was facing the early church. The message of Jesus had spread in various places among the Jews, but in a place called Antioch, a new thing was happening. The message was also being told to the Greeks, who responded in faith.

The church in Jerusalem thought they should send someone to check it out. They chose a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, by the name of Barnabas. He oozed encouragement and looked for where God was at work. **He worked alongside people in that community and helped them develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus.** Through the leaders and Barnabas, a great number of people came

to trust in Jesus. **He looked to build a team of people rather than doing the ministry all by himself.**

Barnabas' team included another foreigner, Saul, but mostly the team was made up of local people with whom Barnabas and Saul became fellow travellers and learners, equippers and mobilisers. Barnabas' team, however, was larger than the people on the ground in Antioch. It included **people back in Jerusalem who prayed and gave and with whom Barnabas would share stories of God at work.**

Last year I had the privilege of travelling to Malawi and visited some areas where Global Interaction cross-cultural workers were involved. Prior to going, during my visit and since then, I have pondered the question about whether it is still necessary to send cross-cultural workers to other countries. In Malawi I found people like Barnabas. They had an optimistic outlook, good emotional intelligence and shared the Gospel with small groups of people who had never heard it before! They had particular skill sets and experience that complemented those of the few national followers of Jesus. Working humbly and with mutual respect they added significant value to what was happening locally.

I also saw the value in Malawi of having both national and foreigners on the ground to help invest donated resources strategically rather than simply directing money at random projects. Doing this brings a greater sense of

responsibility and ownership for local people as well as those who are from other places in the world.

Followers of Jesus are commissioned by Him to make disciples of all nations² and to be witnesses to Him in local, regional, national and global arenas³. In addition, being recipients of the love of Christ leaves us with no options but to be people of Good News wherever we go⁴. In fact, God wants to make His appeal through us⁵.

When we talk about global mission initiatives there are often comments about whether, rather than sending people as cross-cultural workers to another culture and country, we should just send money to resource national people to fulfil the Great Commission in their context.

It is an excellent question, both from a strategic and economic perspective. When you think about the situation from the Book of Acts, or the situation I described from my trip to Malawi, how would you respond to that matter?

I put it to you that the era of sending cross-cultural workers beyond Australia is not over. However, we do well to be wise and strategic in the sending... and, please God, let us see a great number of people coming to know yYu.

BILL BROWN

Australian Baptist Ministries National Council Chair
& Senior Pastor, Syndal Baptist Church, Vic.

1. Acts 11:19-26

2. Matthew 28:18-20

3. Acts 1:8

4. 2 Corinthians 5:14

5. 2 Corinthians 5:20



Baptist World Aid Australia

Cyclists Go the Distance



Team gears up for 1,000km journey to help break the cycle of poverty.

Around the world, millions of children live in poverty and are at risk of being abused, trafficked, and exploited.

On 29 October 2016, 20 cyclists set off from the Gold Coast on the 8-day Pedal Against Poverty Coast2Coast challenge, which ends in Sydney. Participants in the challenge include riders from across South Australia, Queensland, and New South Wales who are coming together to raise money for vulnerable children.

The Coast2Coast team will pedal their way through the spectacular Australian scenery with the assistance of a road-cycling support crew, and the help of participating professional cyclists.

Pedal Against Poverty was founded by a group of cyclists who wanted to use their love of riding to combat one of the world's most pressing needs: the vulnerability and exploitation of children living in poverty.

The inaugural Coast2Coast challenge took place in 2015 and raised more than \$62,000 for Baptist World Aid Australia's Vulnerable Children Fund. It was a tremendous success! The money raised funded projects to protect vulnerable children from exploitation, trafficking, sex slavery, physical abuse, and child labour.

This year, the Coast2Coast team is aiming to raise \$100,000 for the important work supported by the Vulnerable Children Fund.

Baptist World Aid's International Program's Manager, Daniel Norris, is taking on part of the challenge.

"I have had the privilege of seeing, firsthand, the great work of Baptist World Aid and our partners overseas," says Mr Norris.

"I've worked at Baptist World Aid for over 10 years, so I've witnessed the long-term, sustainable impact that these projects have on the lives of children doing it tough.

"I'm excited by this opportunity (and huge challenge!) to raise funds for the Vulnerable Children Fund".

The Coast2Coast challenge would not be possible without the support of key event sponsors Baptist Insurance Services and Baptist Financial Services. For many years, these two ministries have faithfully supported the work of Baptist World Aid. The continuation of these partnerships has allowed Baptist World Aid to keep the event costs to a minimum, meaning that more of the funds raised can be directed to projects protecting vulnerable children around the world.

If you'd like to support the team on their journey, go to: pedalagainstpoverty.com/coast2coast.

For prayer...

NOVEMBER

M14 Pray for Baptist Care Australia as they seek a new Executive Director.

T15 GIA: Pray for Mr Dogo, a young Yawo man, who with very little formal education has a gift for teaching from the Bible.

W16 West Beach: Praise God for His blessing on our recent children's program. Pray that the children who came will want to follow Jesus.

T17 Pray for revival.

F18 BWAAust: Thank God for the *Little Book of Big Gift Ideas* – our health gifts save lives and stop the spread of disease in poor communities.

S19 Pray for the new Chair of the Company of Grace – Mr Nghia.

S20 Pray for Mike Mills and staff, Andrew Turner (Church Development Facilitator), Melinda Cousins (Accreditation Facilitator), Mike Stevens (Youth & Young Adults Facilitator), Elliot Keane (Evangelism Equipper) and Darryl Bishop (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse {CALD} Ministry Facilitator).

M21 Thank the Lord for WestCare caring for up to 30 rough sleepers overnight.

T22 Salisbury: Pray for the church to grow and be effective in evangelism and making disciples.

W23 Pray for President Jason Hoet.

T24-S27 Pray for the Green Team serving at schoolies' week.

F25 Pray for Child Protection in SA being improved with the Nylan report.

S26 Pray for those newly baptized.

S27 Pray for Dr Mills and the management team at Kompam PNG in the time of financial difficulties – may it be a time to draw closer to God and to sense Him as being the author and provider for this work.

M28 GIA: Pray for peace for Rob and Deb who have moved from their family home to serve in Cambodia.

T29 BWAAust: Our learning gifts will help children and adults who missed out as children.

W30 GIA: Pray for Board members from SA – Heather Coleman and David Bird.

DECEMBER

T1 Baptist Care: Pray for Jo Hubbard as she ministers with churches on community development,

F2 GIA: Pray that Dema, Carolyn and family are settling in well in the new area in Thailand.

S3 Pray for those seeking work.

S4 GIA: Cate Rogers is looking for suitable Khmer culture and language nurturers to assist the new missionaries in Cambodia.

M5 SA Assembly Board and committees meet today. Pray.

T6 Pray for safe travel for those going to Vietnam to help the Company of Grace build the homeless shelter.

W7 Baptist Care: Pray for Ian Warner as he coordinates chaplains in hospitals.

T8 Pray for young people deciding on their future studies.

F9 Pray for friends in hospital/care.

S10 Thank God for Alpha.

S11 Pray for our pastors.

Baptisms

Follow me...

Blackwood Hills
 Sunday 25 September
Katherine Gregory
 baptised by Nona
 Gregory.

Broadview Baptist
 Sunday 11 September
Yousef Musallam by Ps
 Darryl Bishop

Rostrevor Baptist
 Sunday 28 August
 (pm service)
**Maddi Cuk, Reece
 Calvert, Emma Mao**



Maddi Cuk (holding white paper), Reece Calvert (white t-shirt),
 Emma Mao (black/white check shirt, to right of Reece)



A MOVEMENT OF
 LOCAL CHURCHES
 THRIVING IN JESUS,
 TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

together in
mission

Annual Assembly

Saturday 19 November 2016
 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

Seaton Baptist Church
 183 Trimmer Parade, Seaton

All Welcome

Baptist 40+ Singles

Final function for 2016

**Saturday
 19 November**

**3
 FUNCTIONS!!**

RSVP : Tuesday, 15/11/16
 Helen and Brian, 8341 8283
 (Emergency only: 0411 772 475)

Brunch | 10.30 am

**Pancakes
 at the Port**
 1 Mercantile Dock
 Port Adelaide
 (to the east of the red
 lighthouse)

Cost: Reasonable
and/or

**Saturday
 afternoon
 walk/drive**

around the Port wharfs
 and over the Jervois Street
 Bridge

Afternoon Tea
 at a cafe to be agreed
 upon on the day

and/or

Tea | 6.00 pm

Birkenhead Tavern
 3 Elder Road
 Birkenhead

Cost: Very Reasonable

and/or

Fireworks display
 over the Port River
 9.00 pm

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 Telephone: 0011 44 2086946538

FIND A NAME

Sisters M.Rogerson and F.Hogan served as missionaries in the Mount Cooper Circuit during the 1940's. I would be very grateful for the Christian name and personal details of Sister Rogerson for research purposes. Gordon Crabb, phone 8251 0791

CHURCH PEWS TO GIVE AWAY

29 pews in total. 13x 1.5 m long and 16x 1.8m long. If you are interested please contact Peter Leith, 0429 380 573



Christmas Gifts
 for homeless children
 0 - 15 years



Baptist Care

Drop off your gift (unwrapped) to:

WestCare Centre
 11-19 Millers Court, Adelaide SA 5000

before Wednesday 7 December



www.baptistcaresa.org.au

Please send your donations to:

Fundraising Team
 Level 2, Baptist Care House
 130 Rose Terrace, Wayville SA 5034
 T: 08 8273 7106

Financial donations are tax
 deductible and will buy
 toys and gifts.

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 December 2016 | 11 November