



**Baptist News**

July 2017

Last Edition with this look!

# together in **mission**



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## For prayer...

### JULY

M10 West Beach: Pray for our children's holiday program, that leaders, children and parents are drawn closer to Jesus. \*Pray for Mylor activities and all the schools holding camps there.

T11 GIA: Students Natalie, Mat, Melissa and David are doing Global Experience in Malawi/Mozambique.

W12 Pray for Baptist Care homeless clients during winter.

T13 Symposium No Barriers: Women and Pastoral Leadership with guest speaker Dr Lynn Cohick and Mike, Jason, Karen Walker and Melinda.

F14 Pray for all Baptist Care staff who continue to serve with love the vulnerable communities.

S15 GIA: Dema, Carolyn, Grace and Daniel are on home assignment.

S16 BWAAust: Pray for State Rep., Robin Carter, as he ministers to SA Churches.

M17 Pray for Beth as she meets Children's and Youth Ministries' vision teams to plan terms 3-4.

T18 Praise God with Dr Mills that tribal fighting has stopped and the Kompiam hospital has re-opened.

W19 GIA: Pray for full support for Andy and Rachel Stevens who will be joining the Yawo team in Malawi.

T20 GIA: Pray for Luke & Rachel Hutchinson and Marc & Rachel Jericho and their families as they prepare for service in Cambodia.

F21 Pray for Baptist Care Church Ministry team and their important work together with local churches.

S22 Pray for Mike Mills and staff, Andrew Turner (Church Development Facilitator), Melinda Cousins (Dir. Ministry Accreditation), Beth Hoy (Next Gen Ministry Facilitator) and Elliot Keane (Leadership Development Facilitator).

S23 GIA: Pray for Rob and Deb as they build relationships with Khmer friends and share Jesus with them.

M24-F28 Most of our Accredited Ministry Formation candidates are doing a subject at Bible College with Jeff Pugh – Church Systems and Congregational Health – pray.

S29 Pray for revival.

S30 Pray for President Jason Hoet.

M31 GIA: Pray for Cate Rogers home assignment from Cambodia.

### AUGUST

T1 Pray for young people/leaders.

W2 BWAAust: Pray for safety and protection for our State Reps who spend a lot of time on the roads.

T3 Pray for Baptist Care Board.

F4 Salisbury: Pray for the church to grow and be effective in evangelism and making disciples.

S5 GIA : Pray for Board members Heather Coleman and David Bird.

S6 Thank God for Alpha.

M7 SA Assembly Board and committees meet today. Pray. \*Third gathering of our Women Preachers' Network to encourage and raise up new preachers. Pray.

T8 Pray for friends in hospital.

W9-T10 Annual Pastors' Conference at Hahndorf – guest speaker Rick Lewis – pray for them.

F11 Pray for Hoa's health.

S12 Pray for those baptized lately.

S13 Pray for our pastors.



## Take the next step

Jason Hoet  
President

Some things are simple. Cooking eggs and bacon for breakfast is simple to do and delicious to eat. An éclair is delicious to eat, but I have no idea how to make one. To me such baking is complicated. Yet with time, training and patience for the trainer, I could possibly learn how to make an éclair. Possibly.

Some things in life are simple, some are complicated, many are complex. It is complex to support a child being bullied or a friend wrestling with addiction. As Christians and churches, it can be complex for our times to know whether to speak or not, whether to act or exercise restraint. It can be difficult, even impossible, to know given the range of options what is the best thing to do.

What can we do? We can take the next best step. Of course, we should plan, pray, consult, discern, but ultimately we start by doing something. Given the complexity, we will likely need to soon correct our course. At that point, we again take the next best step. This is how it works with the bullied child. We try one course of action, if that works, great. If not, we try another, and then another, navigating as best we can towards the vision of the child's best.

This practice of tacking with the winds of change is a skill exercised by modern organisations today. Such agility requires at least vision to navigate towards, the capacity to learn and adjust when off course, the courage to defer decisions until the last responsible moment. Today our world is rarely simple, at times complicated, and most often highly complex. I write this with a heavy heart for our national and churches' challenge of reconciled relationships with Indigenous Australians. This is but one example. What can we do? Take the next best step. And what is that?

Are we wise enough to navigate such complexity? As a movement of churches are we agile enough? I believe in Christ we have ample vision to navigate towards. What else can we strengthen to take the next best step, and then the next, and then the next?

## Welcome

Mike Mills  
State Executive Minister



In the past month we have welcomed Camila Cardenas to the team here at Unley. Camila takes on the new, part-time role as Media and Communications Officer coming to us from Tabor College of Higher Education where she also worked in Communications and Marketing. Camila moved to Australia two and a half years ago from Colombia. She is married to Mick Barrett who is on the pastoral team at one of our member churches, Richmond Baptist Church.



In the new role Camila will be strengthening our communications across the Association, resourcing our promotions and developing our profile. A part of all this is, of course, Together in Mission. This July edition will be the last issue in the current format; we will be taking a break in August but keep an eye out for a new look in September!



## SYMPOSIUM

# NO BARRIERS: WOMEN & PASTORAL LEADERSHIP



For many years as a movement, we have championed the place and contribution of women, we have accredited and ordained men and women, and we have affirmed the place of women in leadership. Yet we recognise there is more to be done. We have not always articulated the biblical and theological foundations for what we do clearly. There are also some particular practical challenges women in pastoral leadership amongst us face. Our hope is that this symposium will contribute to us all better understanding and embracing the position we hold and why we do what we do in this space.

Our keynote speaker is Dr Lynn Cohick, Professor of New Testament at Wheaton College in Chicago, who will be presenting a biblical perspective on the topic. Lynn has written two recent books exploring the stories of women in the formative centuries of the church, as well as commentaries on Philippians, Ephesians, and Romans. She is also part of the Langham Partnership International, a fellowship started by John Stott that seeks to train pastors, leaders and scholars in more than 70 countries.

We will also hear from some women in our movement alongside Lynn sharing their experiences of being in pastoral leadership and some of the unique challenges this can bring. We hope this will help us listen to one another well and recognise some of the unseen barriers that women in ministry can face.

The symposium will close with a panel discussion and Q & A with leaders in our movement including State Executive Minister Mike Mills, President Jason Hoet, and Director of Ministry Accreditation Melinda Cousins. This will give us an opportunity to explore how we have been and are continuing to address this topic, to respond to questions, and to share ideas for the future.

We believe this will be a significant gathering for our movement and we would love to see many of our pastors, church leaders, and church members gathered together to listen, learn, share, and collaborate in this space.

There is no cost for the symposium and morning tea will be provided. You can register to attend on <http://e.mybookingmanager.com/WomensSymposium>

Visit our website to read some interesting short articles about women in ministry.

## News from our **Churches**

### Induction of new Pastors!

#### Unley Park Baptist Church



It was a great May morning sharing and celebrating together at the induction service of our new lead pastor Jason Hoet. Mike Mills and many friends joined us as we welcomed Jason, Ann and their family. Exciting times! Welcome to the Hoet's.

#### Aberfoyle Park Baptist Church



On Sunday June 4th, Rev Frank Eames was inducted as pastor. We were delighted that Philip Beck could attend to lead the induction on behalf of the Baptist Churches of SA. Our church family joined with Frank's family and friends to celebrate this time of committing to one another. It is with a sense of excitement and expectation that we begin this next journey together as we explore where God will lead us as salt and light in our community.

### **Baptisms** *Follow me...*

Richmond Baptist Church  
**Ivania Santos** by Pastors Elliot Keane and Mick Barrett



**Tori Ferguson** by Pastors Elliot Keane and Mick Barrett at West Beach



Blackwood Hills Baptist Church

**Zoe Thomas** was baptised on Sunday 18th June by Pastor Deb Potter

# M&M CAMP 2017



There was a real buzz from start to finish at M&M Camp 2017 at Mylor on the June long weekend as we shared faith, made friends and focussed our attention on Thailand. From the snake at our welcome event to the elephant game at the Amazing Race, campers from across the state in yrs 3-7 enjoyed a jam-packed weekend of activity, faith-building and fun.

A dedicated team of senior and junior leaders prepared a programme that attempted to give the campers a sense of what they might experience in Thailand. Our welcome event gave campers insight into aspects of the Thai culture as well as challenges at each station giving opportunities to gain points for their team at the same time – like drawing a monkey or trying to make the king smile. Nine teams of campers shared their own original presentations of their camp experience with the rest of us – what a vast array of talent and creativity we witnessed with a lot of laughs as well as food for thought.



Blessed for the fourth year in a row with sunny days and no rain, we were able to enjoy the adventure of taking 125+ campers for a night hike – seeing a long line of torches snake beside the creek bed in the dark of night was beautiful. We were very blessed to have some special guests with us. Andrew McDonough (Lost Sheep creator) came to share God's word with us in true Andrew McDonough style. He also led one of the craft electives, helping campers create a dazzling artwork as a jungle background for our group photos. Dema and Carolyn and their children, Grace and Daniel, who serve in Thailand with Global Interaction, spent an evening with us and it was our privilege to hear from them and pray for them following with an amazing Thai meal. It was a remarkable moment as we also prayed for 3 children at camp who will be going on mission overseas with their families soon – an M&M Camp goal definitely being lived out!



## Sacred Agents **locane Tasting**

*By Andrew Turner - Church Development Facilitator*

*This is the third in a series on having our senses heightened by God's Spirit. So far we've discussed Peripheral Vision and Eavesdropping. Stay tuned for Rat-Smelling and Detonator-Touching still to come...*

If you haven't seen *The Princess Bride*, then you must immediately, not least for the classic Battle of Wits scene between Vizzini and the Man in Black. It's a challenge: To the death! For the princess! Which of the two goblets of wine has been poisoned with locane Powder? (It's odourless, tasteless, deadly, and apparently an Australian export.) \*Spoiler alert\* Our hero in black prevails only because he has spent years building up immunity to locane.

I don't have to remind you sacred agents that there's a lot of poison going round. On your journey of rescue you'll face many battles-of-wits, where the binary options of fight and flight look equally unpalatable. Do you keep your head down and avoid the hostility? That doesn't seem like Jesus. But nor does weighing in with hostility of your own. That's where we need to be alert enough to see and select a third option Jesus offers us.

This is the option of engaging with hostile people with radical love that turns the other cheek and goes the extra mile. It's a lot easier for me to type this than practice it, because cheek-blows and pack-carrying are both quite painful. But it's the only thing that will really progress our journey of rescue and redemption. It's God's chosen way to change the world.

If following Jesus means getting up close and personal with a fair bit of poison, then we need to build up our immunity to it. Our first battle-of-wits is unlikely to be face to face with IS terrorists or the panel of *The Project* (not to compare them). It's in the small barbs we'll face each day from those we live and work with that we can practice Jesus' redemptive presence and gradually build up our immunity to evil. It's as we take to God in prayer the insults and pressures we face that we'll build the capacity to absorb more.

Every day we can build our cross-carrying muscles, and thus stay in the adventure to rescue the princess and see True Love prevail.

# Together in mission **On mission**



## **Back In Town** *By Luke Hutchinson - State Director SA/NT*

*Last month South Australia welcomed some of our Global Interaction cross-cultural workers – Dema and Carolyn Pachuau, and their children Grace and Daniel – for a period of Home Assignment. Here's a little of what they have been up to, and some details of how to join with them as God continues his work among the Ethnic Thai people of Thailand.*

The Pachuau family are from Mizoram, India, and have been serving as a part of Global Interaction's team in Thailand since 2010. Dema and Carolyn spend their time working to form deepening relationships with Ethnic Thai people, so that they might understand and relate to them well, creating genuine opportunity to share the message of Jesus within the Ethnic Thai cultural context.

Through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, over recent years a number of faith communities have formed and are meeting regularly, exploring the Bible, and worshipping and praying together in culturally relevant ways. It has been great to hear of the many baptisms that have been taking place, and it is exciting that some of these believers are now being equipped and empowered to lead these faith communities as local Thai leaders.

In late 2016, Dema and Carolyn relocated to a new area in Thailand where there are very few followers of Jesus. They are praying that the story above might be replicated in their new location. To help them gain a true foothold in the

community, Dema works as an English teacher at the local school, helping to create for him a significant identity on which he can build relationships. Carolyn spends her time visiting older people and children with disabilities. They participate as a family in many local community events. Their vision – and Global Interaction's – is for their new friends to respond to the message of Jesus, and for a faith community to be established whose members will be empowered to share the Gospel within their own communities.

Global Interaction invites you to consider partnering with Dema and Carolyn in this ministry. If you would like to hear them share about what is happening in Thailand in more detail, please check out their church visitation calendar on this page. And if you would like to meet with Dema and Carolyn in person, or in a small group or other forum, please be in contact with Anne-Maree at the Baptist Centre. We guarantee you will be inspired by Dema and Carolyn and the amazing stories they have to share of God at work.



### VISITATION CALENDAR

#### JULY

Sunday 2 July – Hallett Cove Baptist – 10 am

Sunday 23 July – Spring Park Baptist Church – 10 am

#### AUGUST

Sunday 6 Aug – Salem Baptist Church Gumeracha – 10am

Sunday 13 Aug – Hackham Baptist Church – 5 pm

Sunday 13 Aug – Flinders Street Baptist Church - 10 am

Thursday 24th Aug – Depart for Thailand



**Baptist Care**

## **National Sorry Day commemorated at Baptist Care**

*Photos by Nharla Photography*



*Les Sumner performing at Baptist Care's Sorry Day commemoration*



*The Baptist Care team with their very special cupcakes*

This year's National Sorry Day commemoration at Baptist Care's Inner City site set a wonderful tone leading into Reconciliation Week. The event was fully catered and included live entertainment from musician Les Sumner, beauty therapy and pampering, henna and painting. Guests also enjoyed creating "bush medicine paper" from traditional medicinal ingredients that were gathered on country.

"We wanted a strong client focus at this year's Sorry Day event," explains Inner City staff member and event organiser, Kristen Forbes. "We wanted to acknowledge our clients' journeys and the impact that past Australian policies and procedures have had on them and their community. But we also wanted the day to enhance the spiritual well-being of the community."

To celebrate spiritual connection to country, tables were decorated with centre pieces from the Kurna, Eastern Arrernte, and Ngarrindjeri bushlands, and jars were filled with the sand from these lands and gifted so that people could take part of their country home with them.

A memorial was also set up so that people could pay their respects for Auntie Alice Rigney, an inspiring Elder of the Kurna and Narungga nations, and the first Aboriginal school principal. "The day was really amazing," acknowledged Kristen. "Everyone had a good time."

Thank you to those who donated gifts for the event; to Nunkuwarn Yunti; the Travelling Paper Maker, Kat Hazelle, Fly Bird Fly, staff and volunteers, and a special thanks to Heather McNarry for providing an amazing feast (not to mention 200 delicious cupcakes!)

# Are you an Inn Keeper or a Good Samaritan?

By Julie Lawrie - Baptist Care (SA) Board - Deputy Chair

What do you get when you lend the stage to an Economist, a Theologian and a Politician at a Baptist Care conference? A very Baptist way of considering how to compete with purpose in a socially inclusive way.

From June 7-9 Baptist Care staff and board members from across Australia, including 10 delegates from Baptist Care SA, along with each of the State Directors of Ministries, travelled to Brisbane for the annual Baptist Care Australia Conference.

Just as the Bible shows us the value of working in partnership with one another, and the impact of iron sharpening iron, Baptist Care organisations from each State also come together regularly to grow and learn from one another.

At the core of the Conference, was the theme of 'Competing with Purpose', as we serve the marginalised and those at risk in society within our own communities. We also heard about the impact of the collective Baptist voice, which is now heard in Canberra, as Baptist Care Australia advocates with our nation's politicians, to reflect God's love and justice by partnering with communities and individuals to empower hope filled, purposeful lives, while championing safe places for the marginalized and those at risk in society.

Theologian, Dr David Benson commenced with opening The Word to Luke 10:25-37 (The Parable of the Good Samaritan). Expecting a traditional high-level theological sermon on this great passage, we were instead challenged on whether, within our faith based organisations, we reflect a theology for the real world – whether we reflect something specifically relevant for those in need in our own communities.

The Hon. Ken Wyatt, Minister for Aged Care, followed on, reminding us of the political environment in which we operate, and affirmed the Government's commitment, especially to those in need in our community.

The idea of looking at the competing pressures around us, and yet forging ahead in Jesus' name to deliver generous justice, continued throughout the conference.

Economist Dr Gordon Menzies rounded out the event by re-examining the passage, and highlighting that the Samaritan wasn't the only one who cared for the man who was robbed and beaten – for a fee, the Inn Keeper also cared for him.

The Baptist Care Australia conference has got me thinking...as a Christian and member of a Baptist church, and as one involved with a faith based organisation: Do we just care for people because it's our job, or because we are purposefully reflecting Christ's love and compassion?



Photos by Tammy Law



## Be part of an incredible story.



## Be Love Sponsorship Sunday

By Samara Linehan

This Be Love Sponsorship Sunday, Baptist World Aid is sharing Shanto's incredible story.

Shanto\* is 10 years old. He lives in Bangladesh with his mum and dad, and his two sisters.

When I met Shanto earlier this year, he was happy, healthy, and strong. He goes to school and loves to spend time playing with his friends. In short, Shanto's life is everything that a young boy's life should be, and that's incredible... because just three years ago, things were very different.

Married when they were only teenagers, Shanto's parents had always been very poor.

"The financial condition was the main challenge," Shanto's mother, Hana, explained to me. "We could not earn daily."

Without a regular income, Shanto's parents struggled to buy vegetables for their children to eat. And that meant Shanto and his older sister were often getting sick and missing school. But then our Christian partner in the field, Baptist Aid, started a Child Sponsorship project in Shanto's community, and when he and his sisters joined a child club... everything changed.

"We are learning so many things," Shanto tells me, "We learned to wash our hands with soap. We learned that we have to put on sandals before going to the toilet."

Shanto's mum even received training of her own. She learned book-keeping and management, and how to be a tailor – everything she needed to know to start her own business!

Now, Hana and her husband use their day labourer wage to buy food and vegetables to keep Shanto and his sisters healthy, so they can go to school. And the extra money from Hana's business means they can afford school supplies and uniforms for all their children.

But when you sponsor a child like Shanto, your support means so much more than a happy and healthy family. Your generosity means children like Shanto can grow big dreams!

"When I grow up, I want to be a teacher," says Shanto, "So that children can learn many things."

Hana has seen the impact of education for her family. It protects her daughters from early marriage and prevents sickness in her community... so she knows it can also help Shanto's dream to come true.

"We will provide him everything he needs to one day be a teacher," she says, proudly.

And when he does, Shanto will be helping even more boys and girls to have a brighter future.

Shanto's story truly is incredible. It's a story about the love of an Australian sponsor, helping to end poverty for not just one child, but a whole family, an entire community, and the next generation... the fullness of life God intends!

When you sponsor a child through Baptist World Aid, you become part of this incredible story...but imagine the impact your church family could help to achieve by working together.

Take our friends at Green Point Baptist Church for example, who recently committed to sponsoring 35 children in the Philippines!

"I know that people in our church sponsor kids from all around the world," says Phil Blair, the Senior Pastor of Green Point Baptist Church, "But I thought to myself - is there value for us, as a church, in getting a little bit more focused? As a church, we could become more engaged, we could become more passionate, we could become more aware and informed... then Child Sponsorship isn't just an individual thing it's actually a community experience that we're all involved in."

Over the next few months, Baptist churches across Australia will be celebrating Be Love Sponsorship Sunday and sharing Shanto's incredible story... and you can be part of it.

Register to host a Be Love Sponsorship Sunday at your church. Go to: [baptistworldaid.org.au/be-love-sunday](http://baptistworldaid.org.au/be-love-sunday).

\*Names changed for privacy and protection.

## Baptist 40+ Singles

Our next dinner for 2017

Place  
Fasta Pasta

255 Main North Road Sefton Park

Time  
6.30pm

Date  
Saturday, 15/7/17

Cost  
Reasonable!

All welcome!  
RSVP Tuesday, 11/7/17  
Helen and Brian, 8341 8283  
(Emergency only: 0411 772 475)

Flinders Street Baptist Church is looking for an occasional marriage celebrant to officiate weddings a couple of times per year. If interested, call 08 8223 4550

## Winter Sun & Deep Listening and Reflection



### Silent Directed Retreat

1 Everard St, Largs Bay, SA 5016  
Choose dates suitable for you  
– one day or 2-5 day stay – within  
August 7-11, or August 21-25, 2017

Contact Di Shearer  
Australian Network for Spiritual Direction  
[dishearer@adam.com.au](mailto:dishearer@adam.com.au) - 044 8536 835

### Morialta Charitable Trust Fund

Morialta Charitable Trust Fund has been supporting disadvantaged Children, Young People and their families in South Australia through its annual program of Distributions for 40 years.

To enable the Fund to continue this support through Community Organisations in South Australia Morialta Charitable Trust Fund seeks donations from the public.

Donations of \$2- and above are Tax Deductible and can be forwarded to the Morialta Charitable Trust Fund at 38 Donegal Street, Norwood SA 5067.

We are working on a brand new look for our Baptist News - Together in Mission. Keep an eye out for it in September!

### Together in Mission Issued By Baptist Churches of South Australia Inc

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