Australasian News Update

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

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Philippines Area Pastor Mr Joseph Gonzales at the Adelaide Fellowship Weekend. Read the article and see the photos on pages 4 & 5.

Greetings from Clarendon

Dear Brethren,

It has been a busy few months with wonderful opportunities to visit areas of the region I have not visited for some time. In July, I was privileged to be able to attend the annual Indonesian Family Weekend with Mr and Mrs Rajan Moses from Malaysia. This was a much overdue trip as it had been several years since I was last able to visit the brethren in Indonesia. Some may recall that after the untimely death of our Elder, Mr Arius Nusantara, due to Covid complications, Mr Firman Bramantyo stepped in to fill the gap, pastoring our 30-plus members. Mr Bramantyo and his wife Erica have been faithfully serving God's people and it is evident that the members are grounded in the faith and deeply connected through a godly spirit of brotherly love. During this same trip I also travelled to Malaysia and visited the members in Kuala Lumpur, as well as visiting our faithful group in Jahor Baru, Malaysia.

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Upcoming Events

Feast of Trumpets
September 12

Day of Atonement
September 21

Feast of Tabernacles & LGD
Sep 26 - Oct 3

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Brethren, as you know, God the Father called us into the Living Church of God and upon baptism, into the body of Christ. But our calling at this time is not just for personal salvation, as all who have lived will be given the opportunity to have eternal life as full members in the God family. However, since the Church began, God has been calling a small few for a special purpose. In the end time, true Philadelphians (Revelation 3:7-13) are noted for their faithfulness. They are a small, but faithful group who walk by faith through open doors. They have remained faithful to the truth, they have not denied Christ's name, they understand true government and are on fire to do the Work, preaching the Gospel and giving an Ezekiel warning to the world. That is why it is important that we understand why we are called now and are firmly grounded and focused on our mission.

Over the past few months, we have continued to see positive growth in our efforts around the region to preach the Gospel. In August we received 4,379 requests for literature. Requests for Mr Weston's booklet "Spiritual Warfare" reached 20.8%, our highest response to a Semi-Annual offer. I feel people in the world are sensing things are just not right! We also need to understand that Satan is getting stirred up and he is getting desperate. On the world stage, we have also been witnessing terrible events, and end-time prophecy being fulfilled. With increased talk of WW3, massive earthquakes and the recent, August 26 landslide and flash flooding in Nepal, it feels the world is on a precipice. As I write, they are still counting casualties...1000 confirmed dead, with a further 4,793 still unaccounted for. The Apostle Paul describes the Earth as groaning. Romans 8:22 states, "For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now."

Let's remember the urgent and vital Work we have been called to do. But also, remember that Satan doesn't want us to succeed. As Mr Weston points out in his booklet, there are unseen spiritual battles taking place – so we must always be on guard.

At the same time, this is an exciting time of the year as we enter the Holy Day season. I'm sure we are all looking forward to and praying for Christ to return to this Earth. Christ is coming to gather the saints, His future bride. Together they will establish a world-ruling Kingdom on this Earth. It will be a government of kings and priests teaching all nations the laws of God and quickly, the knowledge of God will cover the whole Earth, finally bringing humanity true unity and much needed peace - at least for 1000 years.

Sadly, after the 1000 years, Satan will be released for a short time, and people who had been taught by Christ and His bride, will become deceived (Revelation 20:7-9). Humanity will become hostile to God's government and Satan will stir their hearts in a final act of rebellion. What is described in Revelation 20 is heartbreaking. Nations from around the world coming together, a number that is as the sands of the sea, to go up and make war against Jerusalem and the saints – but their end will be swift.

Dear brethren, as the annual Holy Days approach and as the world heads towards its tragic but inevitable destiny, hold fast to your crown. Ensure your names are securely etched in the Book of Life and stay close to Jesus Christ through personal prayer and study. We still have a big Work to do. Let's stay focused on the big picture, pray for the leadership in Charlotte and let's do all we can to support the Work of God in the perilous times we are in.

Sincerely in Christ's Service,

Robert Tyler



What is a Biblical Fast?

God will not bless our fasting if we aren't humbly seeking His guidance, His power, and His will for our lives. If we aren't genuinely trying to put off our selfishness, greed, and vanity, and to put on the mind and character of Jesus Christ, our fasting will be in vain. "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore, submit to God.... Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up" (James 4:6–10).The purpose of fasting is to grow in humility, draw closer to God, and submit to His will in our lives. Therefore, when we fast, we need to spend significant extra time in prayer, Bible study, and meditation.

(What is a Biblical Fast? Editorial Staff, Tomorrow's World Magazine, Sep-Oct 2026)



ADELAIDE: Semi-Annual Mail Out

On Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 11 brethren participated in helping process Mr Weston's semi-annual letter and offer of a brand-new booklet – Spiritual Warfare. The activity required members to fill 5,000 envelopes being sent to subscribers in many countries in Asia as well as India and Papua New Guinea. 6,500 Australian and 3,500 New Zealand semi-annual letters were also sent from our local printing distributor. Altogether, Mr Weston's letter has been sent to 18,000 subscribers in the Asia-Pacific region. Our response to the new booklet, Spiritual Warfare, has been a record high 18% with over 1,100 booklets sent to Australian subscribers. Thank you to all who helped us fulfill the semi-annual letter once again! –*Timothy Mager*



ADELAIDE: Swap Social

Decoratively lined tables, all with unique homemade goods greeted us as we walked through the doors of the Adelaide Swap Social on Sunday, July 5. The sweet aroma of a burning fire and the chitter-chatter of happy ladies filled the air. It was clear from the beginning that it would be a delightful afternoon. Following afternoon tea, which included delicious homemade treats, finger foods and a warming spiced apple cider, we ventured into the courtyard ready to begin the swapping and sharing part of the event. Each lady gave a small presentation about what they had made or brought and then the swapping began. Some of the items available to swap included handmade mosaic coasters, bookmarks, jewellery, home grown fruits and honey, juices, cupcakes, jams and a homemade cold and flu remedy. From the handmade bags that each lady was given to swap with, to the labelled coffee cups, it was evident that hours of thought and love had been poured into ensuring this was a special and memorable gathering. -*Tanya Kearns*



ADELAIDE: Pub and Pool

A great meal at a warm and welcoming local pub was the beginning of an Adelaide men's activity on Sunday, July 5. It was a relaxed afternoon with plenty of fellowship, good conversation and even the occasional game of chess in the background.



After lunch, the 14 men in attendance enjoyed a few rounds of Kelly Pool, a rotational style of pool giving each person the chance to be involved in the game regularly even with many players. Those who had already won a few rounds were happy to give others the opportunity to enjoy a win as well. It was a great afternoon of friendship, laughter, and fellowship, with everyone enjoying the chance to spend time together. -*Angus Montgomery*

Adelaide Fellowship Weekend 2026

The Adelaide Fellowship Weekend was successfully held in the beautiful hills of Clarendon from June 5-8, 2026. The Adelaide congregation welcomed guests from across Australia and internationally from New Zealand. The theme for the weekend was "Fulfilling the End Time Commission", which centred on the past 100 years of God's Work from Mr Herbert W. Armstrong's calling in the 1920s, to Dr Roderick C. Meredith's revival of the Work in the 1990s and recognising the continuation of the Church in the present day under our Presiding Evangelist, Mr Gerald Weston. A special emphasis was also placed on the 20th anniversary of the Work of God being done from the regional office in Clarendon.

The weekend started enthusiastically on Friday as attendees arrived in Clarendon for a soup dinner and Bible Study evening. Upon arrival, the brethren received their brochure and a 20th anniversary wine tumbler featuring a special glass engraving of the Clarendon office. A hearty variety of soups, bread and after-dinner sweets were provided alongside the warm soundscape of fellowship before Regional Director Mr Rob Tyler continued the evening with an insightful Bible Study titled, "A History of the Work (The Last 100 Years)".









After a refreshing rest, we came back to Clarendon the next day for Sabbath services and more delightful fellowship. The sermonette and sermon were given by guest speakers, Brisbane member Mr Michael Tyler and Philippines Area Pastor Mr Joseph Gonzales who spoke on "The Work: Past, Present and Future" and "The Two Witnesses and the End Time Work". Afterwards the brethren enjoyed a generous afternoon tea followed by a delicious catered dinner featuring a variety of meats, roast vegetables and salads. Tasty desserts followed before the evening concluded with a documentary focusing on the 20th anniversary of the Clarendon office featuring interviews with ministry and brethren who had been involved in its history.





Sunday's activities began with lectures in the morning from Mr Gonzales and Adelaide Pastor Mr Martin Montgomery who spoke on "Overcoming the Challenges of Fulfilling the Commission in the End Time" and "Being Steadfast in the Work". We then headed to the Clarendon Office for a BBQ lunch and tour of the office buildings and gardens. A group of brethren also made the most of the beautiful, sunny winter's day by taking a walk along the local Onkaparinga River and playing games of chess, badminton and volleyball. We gathered back at the hall for another tasty meal of lasagne, garlic bread and sweets. Mr Tyler hosted an entertaining and challenging quiz night to conclude the evening which featured questions relating to his Friday night Bible Study and other Work of God topics.









The final day of the Adelaide Fellowship Weekend was held at Australia's oldest surviving German settlement, Hahndorf. We arrived in the morning to explore the exquisite German-themed shops and restaurants featuring local handcrafted goods and produce. Lunch was held at the Old Mill Hotel which gave us a last chance to enjoy light-hearted fellowship and hearty cuisine before saying farewell.

The Adelaide Fellowship Weekend was another uplifting and notable instalment of the many fellowship weekends which have been held in Australia and around the region in the past. We look forward to this Church event being held again next year! –*Timothy Mager*

CHURCH CHAT...

We asked ministry around the region: "What is the secret to a happy marriage?"



Mr and Mrs Warren Burnett
King Solomon imparted a wonderful piece of wisdom in Ecclesiastes 12:13 where he said the man's (and woman's) whole duty was to "fear God and keep His commandments". In marriage we become "one flesh" (Matt 19:5-6), so our whole marriage becomes a joint pursuit of that goal. Beautifully though, that pursuit brings peace and safety. What more could we need for a happy marriage?!



Mr and Mrs Rajan Moses
During 48 years of marriage, we have learned the importance of mutual respect and treating each other with kindness, even during disagreements. Honest communication and trust have always been the foundation of our relationship.



Mr and Mrs Felipe Casing
I prayed, fasted and counseled with ministers and others, then dated several girls. After dating I focused on one girl who attended the Church. It's essential to have the same faith. After a year of knowing each other and growing together in understanding and belief in God, we were married. September 7 this year will be our 64th wedding anniversary.



Mr and Mrs Zig Svalbe
A happy marriage can be sustained through commitment and sacrifice.
*Be faithful in everything, even in little things (Hebrews 11:6).
*Establish a track record of trust, leaving no room for doubt (Psalm 37:5).
*Make God central (Matthew 6:33).
*Be kindly affectionate, forgiving each other (Rom 12:9-21).



Mr and Mrs Martin Montgomery
The answer is found both in scripture and in practice. One scripture that really sums up the "secret" is "Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband" (Ephesians 5:33).
There are many things that affect our marriages, but the two foundational factors that God's word identifies as necessary is love and respect.

ADELAIDE: Board Games Night

A fun and relaxed Board Games Night was held after services on Saturday, August 1. Nineteen people came together for an evening of games, fellowship and plenty of laughs. It was a great opportunity to spend time together in a casual setting and to engage in some friendly competition. A variety of games were available throughout the evening, giving everyone the chance to find something they enjoyed. Bible Trivia tested everyone's knowledge of Scripture, while Chess provided some more strategic competition. There were several other board and card games on offer as well as tasty snacks that were the perfect accompaniment to any games night. Attendees enjoyed both the games and the opportunity to connect with others, strengthen bonds and spend quality time together. *-Troy Kearns*



MELBOURNE: Tomorrow's World Presentation



The Melbourne congregation had the opportunity to host a Tomorrow's World Presentation on Saturday, July 25, with the follow-up presentation held on Saturday, August 1. Regional Director Mr Rob Tyler presented the first topic entitled "Understanding Bible Prophecy". Many expressed an appreciation of this topic and some returned the following week as I presented "Today's Modern Culture vs. Biblical Truth". Both topics were gratefully received and drew in over 20 guests, with a few interested in attending with us regularly. It is an exciting thing to see the Gospel being preached to this world. We do hope and pray that God might use this TWP to call others into the truth to grow His body with others who catch the vision and put Him first in this end time. *-Adam Jennings*

MELBOURNE: Men's Activity

On Sunday, July 26, our Regional Director Mr Rob Tyler attended a men's fellowship gathering at the home of the Melbourne Pastor Mr Adam Jennings. This was well attended by members from the local congregation. Mr Tyler invited comments from everyone about the TWP held in Melbourne the day before. A lively and informative response from the men continued for an hour before we broke for lunch. We then met with Mr Tyler for another hour and a half for a Bible study on the subject of courage in leadership. The men in attendance all enjoyed the opportunity to spend some quality time together and build deeper friendships. *-Colin Kelly*



YOUTH PAG



Tony Leman

On the 10th June 2025, the following article appeared in the Australian version of the Daily Mail: **"Barefoot Investor Scott Pape shares 'most controversial' warning in latest newsletter"** (https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14795899/barefoot-investor-scott-pape.html).

The article written by Caitlin Powell for Daily Mail Australia read as follows:
"Barefoot Investor Scott Pape has shared a disturbing A.I. generated message that he said might be 'the most controversial thing' he's ever published.... Pape described how a friend working with the technology told him to ask ChatGPT: If you were the devil, how would you destroy the next generation? And here is what the A.I. answered, word for word, with zero editing from me. The A.I. laid out a 10-step plan for its method for the 'slow systematic erosion' of society with a warning about technology. If I were the devil, and my goal was to quietly but effectively destroy the next generation – not through shock and awe, but through slow, systemic erosion – here's how I'd do it, it wrote."

In a brief summary, the following is how the A.I. said it would destroy the next Generation in 10 steps:

1. Through Social Media
"Example: A 14-year-old watches four hours of TikTok 'productivity hacks' and does nothing all day."

2. Through fostering lovers of self
"Example: Kids want to be YouTubers when they grow up – not because they love storytelling, but because they crave adoration."

3. Attacking the family structure and family traditions
"Example: A child feels closer to a Twitch streamer than to their dad."

4. Removing mankind from nature and saturating their minds with the digital world
"Example: A 10-year-old can't identify a magpie but knows every Pokémon."

5. Nurturing mankind to become lovers of pleasure
"Example: A young man loses years to video games, vapes, and porn – not because he's evil, but because he's numb and alone."

6. Mocking Faith, commitment and virtue
"Example: A teenager is more afraid of being 'cringe' than being cruel. Kill community, quietly."

7. Fostering shallow human relationships and connections
"Example: Loneliness becomes a silent epidemic – but everyone has 2,000 'friends'".

8. Enslaving mankind through debt and distraction
"Example: A 22-year-old racks up $30,000 in credit card and Afterpay debt to look successful on Instagram."



9. Weakening mankind with poor diet and inactivity

"Example: A child can't sit still in class, not because they're broken – but because they're inflamed, malnourished, and sleep-deprived."

10. Making mankind spiritually bankrupt

"Example: A 16-year-old says "I don't care" about everything – because caring hurts and there's no compass."

"[Scott] Pape said it was the A.I.'s final thought which stopped him dead in his tracks. 'If I were the devil, I wouldn't come with horns and pitchforks. I'd come with a sleek app, a soothing voice, a personal algorithm – and I'd whisper 'this is freedom.'"

It almost goes without saying, but we are clearly living in very sobering and dangerous times. The world that we live in is Satan's world and the A.I.'s answer with a 10-step plan to destroy humanity is cleverly being carried out. Notice that it was not through violence or nuclear cosmocide, but through technology and craftiness. We therefore need to be very circumspect with our use of the technology in this end time. Make no mistake about it; technology is an important aspect and useful tool in our lives, however Satan's goal is to have it consume your lives.

Do your part to walk wisely in life and remember to place your total trust in God to deliver you from all trials because He will!

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BIBLE QUIZ

1. Who is the Australian financial commentator who shared the AI-generated message?
2. What question was ChatGPT asked that led to the 10-step response?
3. According to the AI, what was the first method it suggested for destroying the next generation?
4. What did the AI say could make a child feel closer to a Twitch streamer than to their own dad?
5. According to the AI, what are three things a young man might lose years to because he is "numb and alone"?

ANSWERS

1. Scott Pape, the Barefoot Investor 2. "If you were the devil, how would you destroy the next generation?" 3. Through social media 4. Attacking the family structure and family traditions 5. Video games, vapes and pornography

Q&A With An LCG Minister: Mr Martin Montgomery



When were you baptized into God's Church?
October 12, 1998.

How did you first come to hear about the Church of God?
Through my parents who were in the Worldwide Church of God.

What is your favourite scripture?
Up until recently I would have said Deuteronomy 14:2, but in recent years I think it is more accurate to say 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.

What is your favourite Holy Day? Why?
All are so powerful, but the Last Great Day pictures a time when all can have access to the Truth and as a result the subsequent peace. The world cannot fully know peace until all is fulfilled. We have such an awesome role to be a part of teaching all who have ever lived, true peace, true religion and the true God.

Which has been your most memorable Feast of Tabernacles? Why?
Probably 2014 in Penang. Not only was it our first trip to Asia, but our last Feast with Morgan.

Do you have any special memories that stand out since being in the Church?
The privilege of meeting Dr Meredith on a number of occasions. I got to dine with him and had some "one on one" opportunities too.

What do you feel is the greatest spiritual challenge in the end time?
The spirit of Laodicea is like a thick blanket that has been cast over us all at the end of the age. Its desire is to smother our zeal and energy for the Kingdom. We should be so zealously on fire as we finally see the end time world stage being set, yet we find ourselves lacking if we can't push aside the weight of this Laodicean blanket.

Who is your favourite Bible hero? Why?
It's hard to pick one. It's also hard to go past King David. However, I want to choose Joshua. He was such a man's man, tough and strong. An incredible general who conquered Canaan and was a great protector of Israel who led them well. Yet he was also able to drop to the ground in humility at a moment's notice (Joshua 5:13-14).

What are you looking forward to being different in the Millennium?
I look forward to the work Christ and the Firstfruits will do, in teaching people to overcome human nature. I look forward to both the strength and the mercy of the coming King of kings and Lord of lords.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
Family is very important to me. We have been recently blessed with the opportunity to buy a property where a number of our family can dwell nearby.
I find gardening to be a great joy. Not only ornamental gardening, but vegetable production too.
Leatherwork is what I love to do when there is time – it is a sort of relaxation for me. I started this hobby in my late teens then got married and abandoned the hobby until recently picking it up again.

BRISBANE: Barbecue

On Sunday, May 2, Queens Park in Ipswich was filled with more than just sunshine. The smell of sausages, the sound of children playing and the buzz of good conversation marked our Church barbecue - a simple afternoon that reminded us why fellowship matters. Over 20 members of the Brisbane congregation gathered in the barbecue area under the shady old Moreton Bay fig trees from 10am. We enjoyed exploring the park with its lush landscaped gardens recreated to represent local bushland and flora communities. The children especially enjoyed the Animal Nature Zoo which featured a range of Australian animals. After this we gathered back at the BBQ area for lunch at 12pm. Days like this are where friendships form, where newcomers feel welcome and where we remember we are a family. *-Nicole Tyler*



BRISBANE: Greek Dinner & Games Night



The Brisbane congregation recently enjoyed a fun-filled Greek-themed Dinner and Games Night. Everyone shared a delicious Greek meal before taking part in a variety of games, including racing charades and a comical detective skills challenge built around funny skits, where the "clues" had everyone laughing much more than they were actually solving anything. Thankfully, all plates survived the evening intact—despite the very convincing Greek atmosphere.

Mr Tyler presented the overall winners with a gold medal. Nevertheless, the gold medallists accepted their prize with great humility, while the other competitors equally embraced the esteemed title of 'enthusiastic participants'. It was a delightful evening that brought the brethren of all ages together, strengthening bonds and deepening the sense of unity within the Church family. *-Jason Smith*

PERTH: Soup & Games Night



After Sabbath Services on July 11, 2026, the Perth congregation enjoyed an evening of food, fun and fellowship with a Soup and Games Night. The delicious soups were accompanied by warm bread rolls and garlic bread followed by a variety of games. There was much friendly competition especially in the paper plane "race". Other games included Scattegories, Last Man Standing and Friendly Feud. Thank you to Mrs Debbie Hill who did a wonderful job of organising the evening. *-Jenny Edwards*

NEW ZEALAND: Mr Hemphill's Farewell



On the Sabbath of May 16, 2026, the Auckland congregation bade farewell to pastor, Mr Graeme Hemphill, who had been reassigned back to Sydney, Australia. Mr Hemphill served for 15 months in New Zealand, where he made a positive impact on the Auckland congregation and also diligently worked in the office alongside Mr Tony Leman. Following services, in order to show their appreciation for his service, Mr Hemphill was handed an artistic drawing that some of the ladies had put together, as well as a card where everyone was able to express their well wishes. Mr Leman and I then gave short speeches to thank him for his example and steadfastness to the Truth and the practical help he gave while in the country. Mr Hemphill concluded with expressing his thanks for everyone's support and said he hoped to return soon for a visit with his daughter. Following the presentation, a special afternoon tea was enjoyed that resembled more of a feast day! Rich cakes, hot food and sweet fruit were consumed to celebrate the occasion. The members then said their personal farewells as we wrapped up a memorable day. –*Paul Kearns*

NEW ZEALAND: New Hall



On May 2, the Auckland congregation held its first Sabbath in the hall at Hingaia Peninsula School in Karaka, Auckland. The reason for looking into a new meeting venue was the previous hall was soon to receive a significant renovation that would affect our future bookings. The search began and months later we were at Karaka. The hall was not a simple find but took months of prayerful searching. The new venue ticks all of the boxes. The school has been very easy to work with and favourable towards our needs and desires. They have provided safe and secure storage for our Church gear. The building is relatively new with all necessary heating and cooling options. It is very clean. It has a large kitchen, a projector screen and speakers, gated carparking, plenty of area for children to play and to cap it off, we have been able to sign a long-term lease of three years with potential for more should we like to continue. After months of searching God certainly has blessed the Auckland congregation with a very fine venue where we gladly meet together to praise Him and be instructed in His ways. -*Tony Leman*

NEW ZEALAND: Singles' Trip

While it may have been on the colder side in New Zealand, the fellowship was warm at this year's Singles Trip. Nine singles came together in the beautiful Coromandel Peninsula from July 9-12 where they were admonished on maintaining the 'gold standard' of Christian living. There were excellent lectures throughout the weekend on boys becoming Biblical men, ladies being more precious than rubies, the blessings of singlehood and principles surrounding dating, courtship and engagement. Other activities included the Waimou Kauri Grove walk, Karangahake Gorge walk, Bible trivia, escape rooms, a gold mine tour, all ending with a delightful walk through the Ngatea Watergardens. It was sad to say goodbye, but the friendships and memories will last far beyond the weekend. It truly highlighted that events like these are most valuable...so you could say we struck gold! -*Sarah Berardo*



PHILIPPINES: Family Weekend

Members of the IIligan, Maranding, Cagayan and Bukidnon congregations gathered for a family weekend at the Mastersons Resort in Mindanao on June 27–28. The theme was oriented on Christian service and messages focused on creating a Godly family and the importance of drawing close to God as the primary tool to effectively serve God and His people. The weekend began with a Sabbath service followed by a Bible study. In the evening, after a sumptuous dinner, a trivia question game and a sing-along around the campfire created an atmosphere of joy, fellowship, and meaningful connection among the brethren. The following morning the youth and singles worked together in preparing and serving meals for the brethren while enjoying the beautiful beach scenery. The event concluded with friendly games of volleyball and dodgeball. *-Janna Rivera*



PHILIPPINES: Ladies' Night



The Northwestern Mindanao Spokesman Club conducted its annual Ladies' Night on the evening of May 9, 2026. The 12 men of the club attended along with their invited ladies for the activity, along with myself as event director. The first portion of the evening began with a table topics discussion followed by speeches delivered by some of the men. The event concluded with me giving a final evaluation of the speakers. All five men who spoke successfully advanced to the next level of their individual modules and lessons. The evening not only showcased the members' eloquence and critical thinking but also fostered meaningful camaraderie between the gentlemen and their guests. The Ladies' Night was a resounding success, reinforcing the club's commitment to communication excellence and personal growth. *-Jose C. Arandain*

THAILAND: Living Education

Three Living Education volunteer teachers have successfully completed their two months of teaching English to Thai children at Chumponkiri School in Mae Sot, Thailand. The volunteer teachers were proverbially thrown into the deep end and needed to be adaptable and flexible while navigating through the challenges that naturally come with teaching English to young Thai students. Outside the classroom the volunteers enjoyed several cultural experiences. They explored local markets, visited an elephant sanctuary, travelled through the vast and lush countryside and sampled a variety of local Thai cuisine. The volunteers also attended Sabbath services with the Thai brethren in Mae Sot. Another highlight was participating in a gardening project alongside the refugee brethren from Myanmar, which is run by the LCG Thai Foundation. *-Troy Kearns*



The Living Education Thai Foundation provides a valuable opportunity for Church youth and the Mae Sot community. To donate, please visit www.lcgasiapacific.org/thai-foundation/

INDONESIA: Family Weekend





The Indonesia Family Weekend was held from June 25 to 27, at Villa Omah Londo, Batu, East Java. The theme was 'Not Following the Ways of this World'. During the weekend the teens received many valuable lessons and encouragement through Bible Study, Christian Living lessons, discussions, Q&A sessions, games, physical activities and fellowship. Mr Tyler, Mr Moses and I gave several presentations according to the theme of the event. The atmosphere was filled with joy and enthusiasm. The teens were very excited and actively participated in every activity. They were especially grateful for the opportunity to learn directly from Mr Tyler and Mr Moses. The Family Weekend was a great success and a tremendous blessing. The youth gained many valuable spiritual lessons and were greatly encouraged by the instruction they received from the ministry. They learned the importance of following God's way of life, remaining firm in His truth and not being influenced by the ways of this world. The parents were very thankful to see their children being taught intensively from God's Word and receiving guidance that will help them continue growing spiritually. -*Firman Bramantyo*

BIRTHS

Mr and Mrs Jay and Elyse Christensen of the Brisbane, Queensland, congregation, are happy to announce the birth of their second child, **Chloe Marie Christensen**. She was born May 2, weighing 7 pounds 2 ounces and 20 inches long. She was welcomed home by big brother Jonah who is overjoyed to have a little sister to shower with love.





Mr Jean Daniel and Mrs Vikya Mathan welcomed a new baby boy **Jean Ethan Dynou Mathan** to their family. He was born at the hospital in Luganville, Santo, Vanuatu on June 25 at 4:58pm. He weighed 3.21kg and was 50cm in length.

BAPTISMS



L-R: Mr Warren Burnett, Mr Zachary James and Mr Martin Montgomery

Mr Zachary James was baptised into the body of Christ on July 9, 2026. It was a very memorable occasion attended by family and friends. The water was cold as you would expect in July but the fellowship was very warm. The baptism was performed by Mr Martin Montgomery who was assisted by Mr Warren Burnett. Congratulations Zach!

On Thursday afternoon, June 25, **Mr Didit Edy Supriyadi** was baptised at Villa Omah Londo, Batu, Indonesia. Mr Didit completed his final baptism counseling session with Mr Robert Tyler and the baptism ceremony was conducted during the Indonesia Family Weekend. This was a very meaningful and joyful moment for all of us. We are deeply grateful and thankful to God for this wonderful blessing and for His work in Mr Didit's life. He was baptised by Mr Tyler, Mr Rajan Moses and Mr Firman Bramantyo.



L-R: Mr Rajan Moses, Mr Firman Bramantyo, Mr Didit Supriyadi and Mr Robert Tyler



L-R: Mr Paul Kearns, Mrs Liza Singh and Mr Graeme Hemphill

It was a clear sunny morning on Sunday, May 10, when 11 individuals gathered at Maraetai Beach for the baptism of **Mrs Liza Singh** from Auckland. The baptism was performed by Mr Paul Kearns and Mr Graeme Hemphill. We then shared wonderful fellowship and spiritually uplifting conversation over a delicious breakfast at a local café as we welcomed Liza into the body of Christ and wished her well in her commitment and walk with Christ.

It was a calm, clear morning on July 5 when two members of the Noumea congregation consolidated their commitment to Jesus Christ at baptism. The venue was one of the many beautiful beaches of New Caledonia. The baptism of **Marie Sem** and **Sebastian Manuohalalo** was performed by Graeme Hemphill, area pastor for French Polynesia. After the baptisms 15 of the congregation and family retired to a local restaurant for a celebratory meal. We warmly welcome Marie and Sebastian into the body of Christ and wish them every blessing in their walk with Christ.



L-R: Mrs Marie Sem and Mr Sebastian Manuohalalo

IN LOVING MEMORY



On June 10 we lost **Mr Alan Collins** who was a Melbourne deacon and dear friend to many of us. After a significant heart attack, Mr Collins died peacefully, looking forward to his resurrection at the return of Jesus Christ. He attended with us for 20 years and many will remember him with fondness for heartfelt sermonettes and warm fellowship.



LCG members in New Zealand were devastated to hear the news that **Eliora Sheffield**, the 11-month daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Sheffield, died in her sleep in the early hours of Tuesday, May 19. Eliora had battled many health issues during her short life, including a heart defect, so she had many struggles to face. However, she was a determined little girl who always brought a smile to her parents' faces. She is survived by three older siblings and her twin, Audrey.



Mr James (Jim) Briton, a member of the Perth congregation, died on March 4 aged 99. Mr Briton was baptised in 2014. He was able to attend Sabbath Services until a few months before his death and he always sang the hymns with great enthusiasm and gusto. Mr Briton loved music and had worked as a music teacher and organist. The funeral service was conducted by Mr David Edwards.



Mrs Jeanette Tanner, affectionately known as Garmie, ran her race and now waits for the resurrection. Mrs Tanner died peacefully in her sleep while in hospital around 11pm on Friday, July 3. She was cared for by wonderful nursing staff in her final hours. Mrs Tanner was called into the church in 1968, was baptised in 1970, and at 86 will be deeply missed by all her family and those who had the privilege of knowing her.

Editorial Director: Robert Tyler
Assistant Editor: Martin Montgomery
Layout Editor: Troy Kearns
Proofreaders: Michael Gill
Tanya Kearns
Bethany McKenzie
Vicki Montgomery
Sondra Tyler

The *Australasian News Update* is printed by the Australasian Regional Office, *Living Church of God*, 63 Grants Gully Rd, Clarendon, South Australia 5157, Australia

Postal Address: PO Box 300, Clarendon, SA 5157, Australia
Phone: 08 8383 6266
Email: tomorrowsworld@living.org.au

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