

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

MONDAY
5PM Walking Soccer
7PM Social Soccer

TUESDAY
9:30AM Playgroup

WEDNESDAY
9AM Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY
3:30PM Youth
9:00AM Quilters

FRIDAY
9:30AM Playgroup
4:00pm Kids Ignite

Home Groups
BETTER TOGETHER
If you would like to know
more, Contact Pastor John

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
21st Lucy

READY, STANDING FIRM AND CONFIDENT

I was reading an article this week about how easy it is to join the Swiss army. All you need to do is be a citizen of Switzerland, a male and be 19 years old. That's it. If you fit these three categories, not only are you eligible for the army, but you are already in it! It is mandatory for every Swiss male to be trained for war. For a few weeks every year, you do some army training and then continue on with your normal life. Not only do they get one of those cool little knives with a million different tools, they also get a gun and a jar full of bullets. The goal is that every man in Switzerland is ready and able to defend their nation when needed. If you're a Christian, then you're also part of an army where nationality, gender or age isn't important. If you are a member of the Kingdom of God then you are in a battle against Satan who is an extremely formidable enemy. Even though Jesus defeated Satan on the cross, his influence can still be felt. Satan has lost the fight against God, but he won't go down quietly. He is at work lying (John 8:44) and twisting the word of God (Matthew 4:1-11). He disguises himself (2 Corinthians 11:13-15) and sows wickedness and disunity amongst believers (Matthew 13:24-30, 38-39). He also accuses (Job 1:6-11), blinds us to truth (2 Corinthians 4:3-4) and hinders the work of the gospel (1 Thessalonians 2:18). He is at work in this world to tear you away from God. He wants you to doubt God's love and salvation. He wants you to trust in yourself rather than God. He wants you to reject God as King and abandon his Kingdom. He wants the church fractured and he wants ministries to fail.

As a soldier in God's army, you are called to fight, but not with your fists or weapons. You are to put on the full armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-20). That means you must know your Bible. You must understand, and hold onto, the promises of God. You must remember that you are loved. You must strive to walk with the Lord and rely on his strength, because your strength alone is no match for Satan. You must put your faith in the power of God to save. And you must be on constant guard and put as much distance between Satan and yourself as possible (James 4:7). As a soldier you are instructed to *"turn from godless living and sinful pleasures, and strive to live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God."* (Titus 2:12) Like the men of Switzerland, we are to be always prepared for an attack. **Be ready** with the certainty of God's salvation. **Stand firm**, knowing that he loves you and has the power to save you. **Be confident** that God wins in the end! That's what it means to be a soldier in God's army.

God bless, Pastor John.

PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS

- * Thank God for the gracious gift of forgiveness and the assurance of salvation that we have through Christ.
- * Pray for Lesley Ratcliffe as she recovers from her recent knee operations.
- * Pray for Astrid and family (Ryan and Lane) as they journey with Paul's ongoing battle with dementia.
- * Pray that abortion in Australia will not continue to increase in Australia and that our governments will not all agree to make abortion free.
- * Pray that the new Born Alive Bill, to provide pain relief and life saving care to babies born alive in abortions, will be passed by our Federal government.
- * Pray for our 2023 Soccer season - for new coaches, preparations and strong connections.

SOS CRUISE

The Maroochy River Cruise, morning tea and sausage sizzle lunch is this Thursday 23rd February. The cost is \$35 and the cruise departs the Maroochy Jetty at 10.15am. If you haven't booked your spot already, you will need to see Anneli this morning.

PASTOR'S WEEKEND OFF

Pastor John and Shauna are enjoying some time off this weekend. Please pray that they will have a great time of refreshment and blessing during these few days.

PLAN A - THE GREAT COMMISSION FOR EVERY CHRISTIAN

If you haven't picked up your material (devotional book, Bible Studies and Small Group Worksheets) they are available to collect from the table in the gallery. A gold donation would be appreciated to cover the printing costs of the material.

INFLATION & MARKING DAY COOLUM CRUSADERS

This Tuesday at 10am we are inviting people to come along and help us pump up 140 soccer balls and to mark some of our new equipment (cones, balls, bags etc). If you have a compressor pump or permanent marker, please bring it along. If you don't have a pump or a marker pen we can provide one for you. There will be free coffee (catered by Last Drop Espresso) and morning tea provided.

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(See Exodus 2:1-9)

05-29-2009

**NEWS OF THE SUCCESS OF MOSES' MOTHER'S
BASKET PLAN SPARKED WHAT WOULD LATER BE
KNOWN AS THE GREAT BABY RUSH**

NOTES

"Growing In Jesus" (Mark 1:14-20)

NCLS CHURCH PROFILE (PT3)

This week we will be looking at "How We Relate To God" and the results are very both encouraging. With regards to growing in personal faith over the last 12 months - 40% said they had experienced much growth (at our church, privately or elsewhere), 56% said they had experienced some growth and 4% had experienced no growth. 99% of our church family agree that their faith influences their decisions and actions in daily life. 100% agree that the statement that 'my faith in God is an important part of who I am.' With regards to spending time in regular prayer, Bible reading and meditation - 65% spend that time daily or most days, 27% a few times a week, 1% once a week and 7% occasionally. With regards to whether our preaching is helpful to their lives - 54% always, 36% usually, 7% sometimes and 3% never. With regards to appreciating our music at church - 43% always, 45% usually and 12% sometimes. With regards to whether our worship services helps them to grow in their understanding of God - 41% always, 45% usually, 12% sometimes and 2% never. With regards to being challenged to take action - 34% always, 35% usually and 31% sometimes.

FINANCE - You may Direct Transfer your offering to
BSB NO: 704-913 Acc: 400039335 (Internet banking transfers only)

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Jenny - Salt and Light Photos



19
February
2023

9AM
PASTOR HARRISON
"Growing In Jesus"
(Mark 1:14-20)