# 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

9:30AM Playgroup 4:00pm Kids Ignite Home Groups

you would like to know more, Contact Beth Pfeffer on

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Today - Gail M 13th - Anna & Brendan 16th - Mel T

## PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS

- Lord, help us to set our eyes and hearts on you. Renew our spirits and fill us with your joy and peace.
- \* Lord, forgive us when we let fear, despair and anger consume our hearts and minds.
- Pray for RI at Coolum Primary—that it will start in Term 2 and that we will get a good number of kids in grades 2 and 4. Pray for the teachers—Lynne, Lisa, Chris & Harrison.
- \* Pray for churches in Turkey who are providing shelter for the 1000's who have been affected by the recent earthquake.
- \* Pray for the last week's Gideon's Bible blitz at all the universities in Adelaide & Melbourne and for this month's blitz in the Snowy Mountains that the Word may change lives.
- Pray for Alan Sinclair as he awaits his operation to remove some cancerous nodules.

### DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE OUR DEFEATED ENEMY

"For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12)

I was reading this week how dozens of girls were hospitalised with severe anxiety after losing consciousness and collapsing while playing with a Ouija board at a high school in America. What was intended to be some harmless fun, turned into something far more sinister and dangerous. As Christians we need to remember that there are cosmic and wicked powers in this world - powers for which we are no match for on our own. We need to take the threat of Satan seriously. He may be defeated by Jesus' death and resurrection, but he is still a formidable enemy. Jesus warned the disciples about this, when on the night he was betrayed he said to them, "Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat." (Luke 22:31) Ponder these 10 words for a moment. It highlights the reality that Satan wants to shake and press all believers through his sieve of terror, and sometimes God allows him to do that. So, the question is, are you ready?

Unfortunately, Peter underestimated the power of Satan and overestimated his own ability to stand against him. In response to Jesus' warning, Peter boldly proclaimed, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." (Luke 22:33) Yet not long after that, Peter succumbed to Satan's sifting and denied Jesus three times. While Peter had his faults, he was not a coward or faithless man. So, if Peter could be sifted by Satan, then we could be as well. Without the protection of Jesus, we have no hope of withstanding Satan on our own. Peter had only one hope, and that was in Jesus' prayer in Luke 22:3. Jesus said to Peter, "But I have pleaded in prayer for you Simon, that your faith will not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers." Jesus knew Peter was going to have a major failure of faith and that he would need far more than self-confidence to withstand Satan's attacks. It was because of Jesus' prayer that Peter's faith didn't fail completely and that it was restored and strengthened. The good news is that Jesus is praying the same thing for us each day (Hebrews 7:25). That's why we can be confident we can stand form against Satan and all his wicked attacks. We must take the reality of spiritual warfare very seriously and never overestimate our ability to fight in our own strength. We must always be alert by, "praying at all times in the Spirit . . . with all perseverance . . . for all the saints." (Ephesians 6:18) If we wear the armour of God, trust in the power of God and pray at all times in the Spirit, we will "not be outsmarted by, or unaware of Satan's evil schemes (2 Corinthians 2:11). We will be ready to stand firm and fight whenever Satan seeks to sift us. God bless, Pastor John.

#### **FRIENDS OF ISRAEL**

Next Sunday, we are blessed to have some very special guests join us from Friends Of Israel. Dr Mike Stallard (Vice President for International Ministries) will be speaking on Habakkuk relative to the current state of the world. And Pastor Daniel Price (Assistant Director of International Ministries) will also share with us regarding the ministry of FOI.

## **CREATE & REFLECT (LADIES ART EVENT)**

It's all happening next Saturday 19th March at the church. It will go from 9am to 12pm and its intended for all abilities. The focus this time is on creating realism in drawing. The cost is \$10 and you need to bring an old shirt or apron, an apple or orange. Morning tea is provided. RSVP to Shauna by today.

#### **CRUSADER'S HOME GAMES**

The first of our 8 home games start on Saturday 25th March at the Caulfield Chambers Oval behind the church. The games usually go from 8.30am to about 1pm, with setup starting at 7pm. During these games we run a simple canteen that sells hot food (sausage sizzle and bacon and egg sandwiches), cold drinks and snacks. We also have a coffee van on site. From a volunteer perspective we need people to help set up, serve on the canteen and serve as field controller (you get a pink vest). While we have a small team of dedicated volunteers it would be great to get some more people involved so that we can lighten the load. Please look out for the volunteer sheet next Sunday.

### MOTHER'S DAY IN THE OUTBACK

Care Outreach will soon be heading out west to visit families and deliver gifts to mums in the Outback for Mother's Day. If you would like to donate some gifts please bring them to the church for the next two weeks or take them directly to Care Outreach at Coolum. Gift ideas: ladies toiletries, soaps, moisturisers/hand lotions, hand towel and washer sets, and crocheted hanging hand towels with a hook.



PARPON ME SIR ... WE ARE JUST A FEW MINUTES OUT FROM THE BENEDICTION AND I NEED YOU TO RETURN YOUR PEW TO ITS FULL. UPRIGHT POSITION

## NOTES

"Plan A - Rowing" (1 Peter 4:1-11)

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Pastor John Gallagher

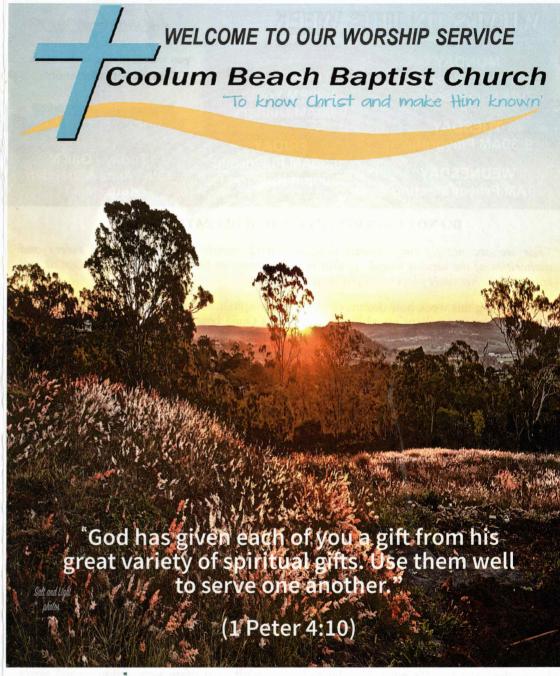
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March 2023

9AM **PASTOR HARRISON** "Plan A - Rowing" (1 Peter 4:1-11)