

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
0408 402 476

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Today Lorraine G,
Judy Miller
20th Maree
21st Carin

PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS

- * Give thanks for Jesus' unfailing love and great compassion that washes us free from guilt.
- * Praise God who is our refuge and strength – always ready to help in times of trouble.
- * Pray that we will honour the Lord with regards to our attitude to money, finances and assets.
- * Pray that the ACT governments plan to take control of Calvary Hospital (because of their refusal to support abortions or euthanasia) will be thwarted.
- * Pray for the men and women serving in our armed forces – particularly those in conflict areas of the world.
- * Pray for the families of those who died and were injured in the bus accident in NSW.

EMBRACING OUR LIGHT AND MOMENTARY AFFLICTIONS

As Christians we shouldn't be surprised by the world's opposition to our faith because Jesus made it clear that this would happen to anyone who followed him (John 15:18-19). He not only told us to expect persecution, He also encouraged us to embrace it when it comes (Matthew 5:10-12). But is it reasonable to do that? Is it even possible to do that? It is because we know that our God is sovereign and that nothing happens apart from his plan - which means that in some way our suffering is God's will. It's not a mistake. It's not meaningless. It's an opportunity to respond to God's sovereignty with hope, trust, and godly character. It's an opportunity to shine God's light in the midst of darkness. **Persecution proves our citizenship.** Suffering for Christ's sake shows that we belong to God and not the world. It proves that we are taking up our cross and following him (Luke 9:23). **Persecution displays our faith.** It proves the validity and the strength of our faith. You'll never know how strong your arms are until you have to lift something heavy, and you'll never know what your faith is made of until it is put to the test. Many fall away when their faith is tested; but those who truly love the Lord will persevere and emerge with their faith tested, proven, strengthened (James 1:12). **Persecution shapes your character.** It takes tremendous heat and pressure to form a diamond deep in the ground and it takes suffering to form Christian character deep in your heart. Persecution is a means God uses to conform you to the image of Christ (Romans 5:3-4). **Persecution equips you for service.** Through persecution, God is equipping us to better serve Him and others (2 Corinthians 1:4). **Persecution produces greater fellowship with other believers.** As we share in our sufferings, we also share in God's comfort and blessings (2 Corinthians 1:6-7). **Persecution causes us to look forward and beyond this world and long for the glorious eternal life to come.** It reminds us that this world is not our home and that the Kingdom still to come is our true and final home. *"For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So, we don't look at the troubles we can see now. Rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever."* (2 Corinthians 4:17-18) So, let us not fear the opposition we face from the world. Let us always remember that even in our worst suffering and our most agonizing persecution, we can rejoice and be glad because God is with us and He is accomplishing his perfect purpose.

God bless, Pastor John.

FAREWELL TO MENA

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mena, and her husband Norman, as they move to Sydney to closer to their family. Mena has been a faithful servant and member of Coolum Beach Baptist Church since 1997. We pray that God will bless you both as you go back to Sydney and that you will find an amazing new church family to worship with.

CHURCH BUDGET UPDATE

Thanks to those that attended our recent Member's meeting and approved the 2023/24 budget. The new budget requires an increase in offerings of approximately \$15,000 per year, based on increased costs, salaries, utilities etc. The attached graph shows that we will reach our budgeted giving this year, but the giving trend is decreasing. Please prayerfully consider your tithes and offerings, as as we work together to meet our new budget and ministry plans. Maybe like many of us you have not adjusted the amount for some time. We appreciate all that is given in the Lord's name for His work and His Kingdom.

SUPPORT FOR JARED & VERENA

A few weeks ago we were blessed to hear from Jared and Verena Bradley as they look to head overseas to work with the Muslim community in Germany. After hearing about their exciting new ministry our church leadership team has decided to give them \$1500 to help with them with the cost of travel and setting themselves in a new home.

SOCCER CAMP PRAYER

Our Hotshotz Soccer camp is coming up in a few weeks (3rd to 7th July) and we are asking you all to be in prayer for the camp. If you would like to do that we have a some soccer camp prayer packs ready to pick up in the church foyer.

COOLUM BEACH QUILTERS AND STITCHERS

This is a craft group that was originally started by our church back in 2005. They meet every Thursday morning in the church hall from 9am to 11.30am. Everyone is invited to bring their own craft and come along to join them. Cost is \$5, with morning tea included.

SOS AND THE TWINNIES

This Thursday, visit to the Twinnies Pelican and Seabird Rescue Centre. Cost is \$20 including morning tea, talk and photos. Sausage sizzle lunch at Pioneer Park Landsborough afterwards. Cost for the lunch is \$5 (BYO chair). For more information please contact Anneli on 0427795112.

"True Witnesses" (Colossians 3:1-17)

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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE
Coolum Beach Baptist Church



"You must not testify falsely against your neighbour" (Exodus 20:16)

18
June
2023

9AM

PASTOR HARRISON

"True Witnesses " (Colossians 3:1-17)