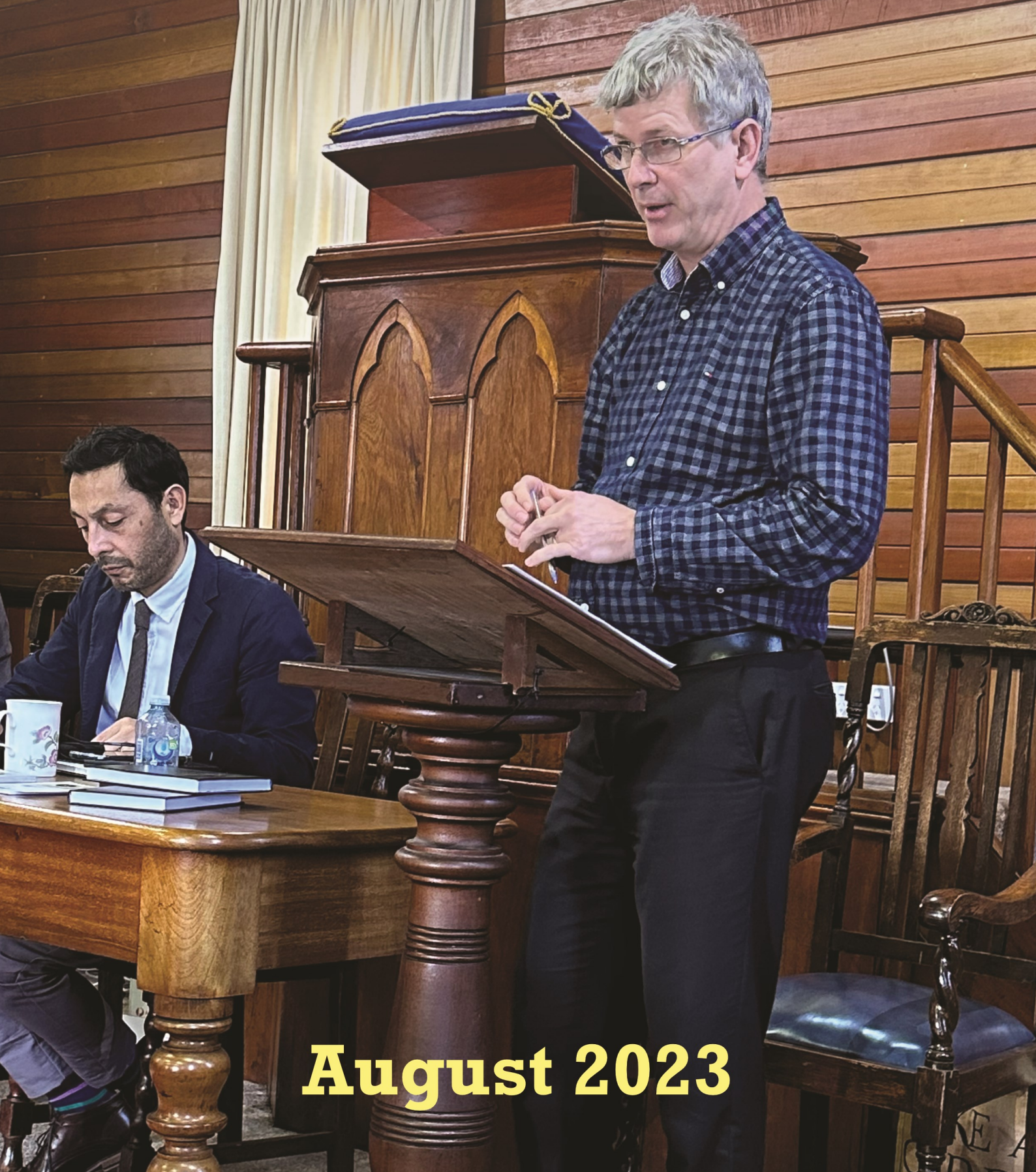


"From the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I." Psalm 61:2

# The Presbyterian Banner



August 2023



Table Of Contents

- 1 - *Cover* - Photo taken at the PCEA Synod 2023, in Raymond Terrace. Seated, Synod Moderator Andres Miranda; Standing, Brisbane Elder Stewart Carswell.
- 2 - *This Issue*.
- 3-5 - *Meditation* - "The Path of Humility," The Moderator's Third Address at Synod 2023, by Andres Miranda.
- 6-7 - *Church News* - Reports from Brisbane, Hawkesbury Nepean, Hunter, St George, and Ulverstone.
- 8-9 - *History Corner* - "Letters of Rev. William Nathaniel Wilson (Part 1)," Introduced by Tom Reeve and John Audet.
- 9 - *The Broader Body* - "Greetings from the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia," Given at Synod 2023, by Lourens Nel.
- 10 - *August Search Work*.
- 10-11 - *August Prayer Points*.
- 12 - *Back Cover* - Top: Members of the Brisbane congregation attending the PCEA Day of Prayer. Middle: The three PCEA Day of Prayer speakers (photos taken at synod). Bottom: Members of the Hunter congregation attending the PCEA Day of Prayer.

From the Editor



Our family had to have our dog euthanized. He had been with us longer than any other dog we'd ever owned, and it was painful to part with him.

He was a good dog, and we were thankful to have him. But he was far from perfect. When he would bark at rubbish trucks, or at the guy delivering the mail, I sometimes got annoyed, and I would bark at him. Most often, he just kept barking, which got me even more annoyed. I would often mutter, "stupid dog."

But I never said, "sinful dog."

If you can even talk about sin playing a role when my dog would not listen to me, or about sin causing him to get sick and die, it was not because of sin on his part. It was because of my sin. The very fact that I am a sinner, that we are all sinners, that's the reason why creation is fallen.

The impact of our sin on this world runs deep, and has devastating effects, reaching even to areas of this planet where man has never been.

But thanks be to God, just as all of creation is fallen because of mankind's fall into sin, so all of creation is going to experience the glorious impact of Christ's victory over sin and death and hell.

Romans 8:21, "creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God." Creation set free from death. Hallelujah!

Jim Klazinga

The Presbyterian Banner [ISSN 0729-3542] is the official magazine of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia.

The PCEA was founded in 1846 and adheres to the Westminster Confession of Faith (1647) as a correct summary of the teaching of the Holy Scriptures.

There are congregations in Kalinga in QLD; Maclean, Wauchope, Kindee, Taree, Cardiff, Raymond Terrace, Sydney CBD, and Mt Druitt in NSW; Wantirna, Mulgrave, Narre Warren, Carrum Downs, and Geelong in VIC; Ulverstone in TAS.

Subscriptions: \$30 per year in bulk (5 or more) and \$35 for Australian individual subscriptions and \$50 overseas.

Bank details for Direct Credit: Bendigo Bank, BSB 633 000 Ac: 163 581 242 Please add your name in the details panel when making payment.

**The opinions expressed in the articles and news reports are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the editor, his assistants, or of the PCEA itself.**

Reproduction of articles is usually allowed but permission to do so must be sought first.

The magazine is available as a pdf file for free download on the Church website: [www.pcea.org.au](http://www.pcea.org.au)

Editor: Jim Klazinga, 3 Padua Place, Boondall, QLD 4034

Mobile: 0466 213 763 Email: [editor@pcea.org.au](mailto:editor@pcea.org.au)

Assistant Editors: Ben Klazinga and Julie Klazinga

The editor is grateful for the assistance of an informal network of Banner liaisons from various PCEA congregations.

## The Path of Humility

The Moderator's Third Address at Synod 2023, by Andres Miranda

It's celebrated in Christianity, and every true believer is eager to grow in it. God displayed it in the incarnation, and it was an attitude that helped the enfleshed Logos to overcome opposition, and endure the suffering of the cross. I'm talking about humility.

But it's not enough to admire this virtue, we must make it part of our Christian personalities. The reflections in this lecture are meant for people who are serious about making progress in Christian discipleship.

Now in order to proceed with confidence we must be thorough in our analysis. We can't understand the importance of humility without some brief explanations on the nature of virtue and pride.

The word virtue is open to misunderstanding. If you ask people what is a virtuous person, they'll probably say; someone who is sexually repressed or someone who is really nice.

In the Bible a virtue is the fruit of the Spirit. A virtue is part a set of behaviours that makes a person morally beautiful. Virtues keep us in balance, and emotionally well-proportioned. They also help us to develop in quality and quantity.

Peter speaks about this in his second letter, 1:5-9. “For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.



For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

This is how Christian people grow. They make constant efforts to keep adding virtues to their personalities. And this process becomes a unity of virtues that depend on each other.

Our passage says that some virtues are designed to increase our knowledge of God; some are designed to give us courage and victory in the fight against sin, and some of these God-given virtues are energetic attitudes for sustaining loving congregations. It's quite clear then, that a life empty of virtues can never be rich enough to be productive.

We also learn here that spiritual development is a very delicate thing. Christian virtues must be focused on God, and must be expressed towards people in fellowship with us. They have to be nourished by the intellect as well as by the will and emotions. Christian virtues must be able to live in the presence of God and in the open air, dealing with the challenges of living with other

human persons.

Peter speaks about “adding” or “supplementing the faith” because there is such a thing as a disproportionate growth of virtues. We can focus so much on one virtue that we neglect other virtues that are equally necessary for emotional proportion.

For example, excessive love can lead to blind intolerance, and excessive patience to a lack of courage and assertiveness. Jesus never had that problem. In him there is a balanced blend of divine attributes.

The psychology of our passage is profound but I'm going to stop here to focus on the attitude of humility.

The first thing to say about humility is that it's the complete opposite of pride. Theologically speaking, pride is a deviation from useful feelings implanted by God in human nature. We can summarise them under two categories: self-esteem, and the desire for the esteem of others.

Self-esteem is the basis of personal worth; the desire for the recognition of others is the basis of social life. Self-esteem sustains our personality. Without self-esteem people experience depressive episodes, and lose confidence in personal efficiency. This is a legitimate feeling.

The desire for the recognition of others is also a legitimate and helpful feeling. This disposition is evidence of concern for other people. Under the influence of public esteem, we learn to

encourage each other to do great things in society. We all know what it feels like to have the contributions we make valued, and we are instinctively drawn to people who provide sincere encouragement.

However, if any of these natural tendencies become excessive, our personality will experience major imbalances. When self-esteem turns into self-admiration, and social esteem becomes an obsession with public praise, we become proud. Since the original fall, all our propensities are subject to deviations.

Sin makes them excessive, and detrimental for spiritual growth and church relationships. Proud people resent people who threaten their sense of superiority. They dislike criticism. They're often on the defensive. Their ego refuses to appreciate things in other people. This causes them to reject the truth because it's coming from a person they look down upon. They suffer from envy. They have a hard time learning from others. They expect people to follow their needs. They're always right. The attitudes from self-admiration are so many that it would take us too long to name them all.

The reason why we need to take pride seriously is because pride makes us ineffective in everything we do. The most beautiful action, if it's inspired by pride, is worthless before God. Jesus spoke about this in the parable of Tax collector and the Pharisee (Luke 18:9-14).

Pride is a sin that produces disorder inside us, around us, and in our fellowship with God. It's difficult to admit that we're proud.

And it's even harder to conquer it.

But this inclination can be transformed, as long as it's restrained within limits. And it is precisely Christian humility that provides this restraint.

The need for Christian humility is clearly shown in Philippians 2:1-11. What Paul expects from God's people is summarised in verse 5: "In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus."

This verse can also be translated as "have this disposition in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." In this statement, Paul makes it clear that Christian character must grow from this particular disposition.

To find out the nature of this mindset, we need to keep reading verses 6 to 8: "Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!"

Paul has been encouraging the converts in Philippi to "conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ", and to "stand firm in one spirit, contenting as one man for the faith of the gospel" (1:27). He then tells them to make his joy complete by living together in harmony, which is the outcome of reproducing the attitude of Christ in the Church (2:1—4).

In verses 6 to 8 we have a stunning revelation of the mindset of Jesus. Paul tells us that Christ

has always been God by nature yet in the process of the incarnation he "made himself nothing", "humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross".

What is the explanation for this selfless action? What gave Jesus the strength to "take the nature of a servant" in order to redeem his church, was the power of humility. The mindset of God is essentially the mindset of humility and love.

The humility of Jesus shows us a significant fact: Jesus was actively submitting himself to the good will of the Father. The passage indicates that even though he was in very nature God, he never took advantage of this for personal enrichment, but emptied himself in humility. After the incarnation he remained in the same frame of mind.

It was obviously humility that kept him from selfishly displaying his equality with God during his ministry. He could've received more praise than he did. He could've had special treatment based on his divine status, but Jesus never made those demands. He lived in perfect accordance with the spirit of humility.

It's crystal clear: Humility began in heaven. We didn't invent it. The Son of God showed us how beautiful humility is. He came down from glory. He made himself nothing. We elevate ourselves. We make ourselves a big deal. We give ourselves too much importance.

We need to examine ourselves with humility. This is necessary to understand ourselves and become better people.

So what is humility? Humility doesn't mean humiliation. It

doesn't mean “being a doormat” for other people. It doesn't mean having low self-esteem or even holding back your strengths and ignoring your achievements. In this passage, humility is a virtue that helps us to think of others better than ourselves.

This means that humility helps us to overcome the tendency to overrate ourselves, and that will lead us to recognise the value of others. New Testament humility fills us with respect for the dignity of other believers.

Now, I want to take you to the Hebrew Bible for a complementary definition of humility.

Proverbs 22.4: “The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honour and life.”

Did you notice the connection of “humility” with “fear”? The connection is intentional. The Proverb strikes a nice balance between two extremes: self-contempt and self-sufficiency. If we're constantly putting ourselves down, we'll get depressed. But if we treat the “ego” like a little “god” we forget about the true God. This text shows us how to keep the balance. The wise-teacher tells us that to learn humility we need to keep “the fear of the Lord” and “humility” together.

When Christian people really know themselves, they know that they're “small” in comparison with the greatness of the Lord. This is humility. The “fear of the Lord” is the beginning of wisdom.

God comes first not the “ego”. That's a radical reorientation. The “fear of the Lord” is what gives us the feeling of personal worth. In fact, the “fear of the Lord” with

“humility” is what helps us to change from a human being into a real person.

To be a human being doesn't take much. You just need language, self-consciousness and a human culture. Human beings learn mathematics, science, theology, medicine, law, history and practical skills of every kind. But the question is: Is a human being great because they have wealth, read many books, have a university degree?

No, according to Proverbs we become pleasant and constructive human beings when we change from individuals into persons that “fear the Lord”. Very few of us make the distinction between an “individuality” and a “personality”.

Let me explain the difference. We bring individuality when we are born. This is what make “you” “you”! Personality is something we get. Our personalities are shaped by our upbringing, and the culture around us.

Personalities without the “fear of the Lord” and “humility” have limits. They're spiritually defective, and often manipulated by the ego. The personality that God is shaping in us by the Spirit is not restrained by the culture around us. That's why Christo-centric personalities don't fit in very well with the environment.

I should also say that Christian personality is not about mannerisms. I mean by that, trying really hard to give a good impression, or being extra polite. That sort of behaviour is the product of social conventions. It can be faked.

When you're a Christian you

don't need to act. You don't need to put something on. Believers just glow with the virtues of Christ. And the best way to do this, is to learn from the God who manifested himself in Jesus, and who, from an individual, developed into the most beautiful person that lived on this planet.

Jesus “feared the Lord”, and developed a well—integrated personality, driven by humility, compassion, and a natural attitude of love for the Father.

So if we are humble at all, are we humble enough? Do we fear the Lord enough? Are we more concerned with being noticed? Are we paying too much attention to our feelings of importance? Do I constantly feed the “ego” with proud thoughts about my looks, my knowledge, my health, my skills, my wealth, my job, my acts of worship or whatever? Yes. I know. If we only feared the Lord the way we should! We all have the same struggle.

But don't worry. Remember: We don't follow Jesus because we're humble. We follow him because we are proud and we want to be humble. Walking behind Jesus creates a desire for humility. So don't worry if you're not humble enough. You're not. And I'm not. None of us is humble enough. But if we fear the Lord we'll have the same mindset that was in Jesus. The self-humbling God is calling us to the work of humility. And the example of Jesus is our model. Our short analysis, shows us that pride and humility are two different tendencies, and without humility the Christian believer can't be virtuous.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Brisbane

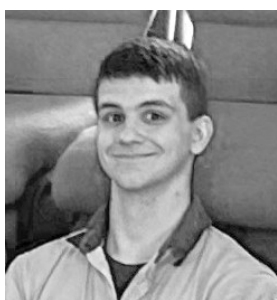
[Report by Jim Klazinga]

We give thanks for being able, on 30 April, to witness the sacrament of baptism being administered to James Joel Scot, son of Joel and Anca Scot. The Scot family left for Europe at the end of June, and are likely to have an extended stay there. However, they are keeping their membership with our church, as it is their plan to eventually return home to Australia as their permanent home.

On 6 May we enjoyed having a congregational meal and Missions evening with special guests Pradeep Kumar and Samit Mishra.

We rejoice with Weylin and Irene Morrison that we could celebrate their wedding on 20 May. Please pray for them and the other young couples in our congregation.

The session met with Jedidiah Hitchens on 30 May, and upon hearing his profession of faith, admitted him to communicant membership in our congregation.



He was welcomed on Sunday, 4 June, during a service in which we celebrated the Lord's Supper. Give thanks for him, and pray that he may be blessed and be a blessing as part of our fellowship.

We held another congregational meal and our Annual Congregational Meeting on 23 June. A good spirit of unity and fellowship prevailed as we

celebrated God's work in our congregation in 2022 and looked forward to His working in and through us into the future.

In June, we bid farewell to Ernest Ong, who returned home to the Philippines after worshipping with us for a few months. However, we anticipate seeing him again, as his Australian employer is working on getting him a permanent resident visa, which will allow him greater freedom in travelling back and forth between working in the Philippines and here in Australia. He hopes to continue fellowshiping with us when he is in Brisbane.

The Deacons' Court and congregation are grateful for an anonymous donation allowing us to purchase chairs from a local Presbyterian Reformed congregation that has recently disbanded. While we are sad for the occasion that made these chairs available, we are thankful for having seats that are much more comfortable than our old pews.

Please pray for our older members, a number of whom are struggling with serious illnesses. Some have had to spend time in the hospital.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Hawkesbury Nepean

[Report by Elizabeth Muldoon]

We had a meeting at our church run by The Creation

Ministry Team. About 50 people attended. It was a very encouraging meeting, not answering every objection to evolution of course, but suggesting some ways in which theories of ancient rocks and fossils over millions of years old may not, in fact, be true. There were a number of teenagers there, and they asked some questions and had opportunities to discuss issues with the speaker. It was very helpful and encouraging.

Our hearts are very heavy at the moment as two dearly loved members of our congregation have been diagnosed with serious forms of cancer: Allan Stewart, and Finau Latu. Please pray for God's grace and kindness to them both and their families, and if it is His will, His healing mercies.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Hunter

[Report by Ian Miller]

Rev Tso recently baptised baby Zara, daughter of Mrs Amy and Mr Oringo. The Baptismal Service was



followed by an enjoyable fellowship dinner.

Among the guests were Mrs & Rev Ball and visiting from Ireland, their daughter Linda, husband

## Church News

"But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift." Ephesians 4:7

Peter and their three adolescents. The baptism of baby Esther Tamata was postponed due to illness.

The mid week Bible study's focus upon the latter chapters of Romans is nearing completion. We look forward to commencing the next study topic; the Book of Deuteronomy, using a Mathias Media publication as an aid.

Rev Tso, Mrs Tso and the family are planning a period of annual leave during August. Guest Preachers will include Rev Athur Adams, Rev George Ball as well as two local office bearers.

A small gathering at Raymond Terrace, in addition to those remaining at home participated in the Day of Prayer. May the Lord be merciful to His Church and this nation.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### St George

[Report by Alex Steel]

We are most thankful for the efforts of our Interim Moderator Rev Robin Tso for his carrying out all the functions of a stated minister, also in his organising pulpit supply. The services by visiting ministers has been much appreciated considering the effort required by some to come to us.

While attendance at public worship in the church is down at some Lord's Day evenings (averaging 16) and mid-week services (Averaging 11) the Lord's day morning service numbers (averaging 40) are reasonable considering we're in a vacancy period, meet in the church in the Sydney CBD, with road tolls and city street paid parking challenges.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### Ulverstone

[Report by Ian Hamilton]



Jean Hearps celebrated her 101st birthday on the 25th June, the same day that Rev John Forbes

administered the baptism of Caspar Dotson.

We farewelled Sylvia Loney on



the 23rd July. She relocated to Perth WA.



## Letters of Rev. William Nathaniel Wilson (Part 1)

Introduced by Tom Reeve and John Audet

In the early 1900s many were wondering what might become of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia. There had been big changes in the mother church in Scotland with only a small remnant steadfastly adhering to the original principles of the Free Church. Liberalism was gaining strength in many denominations, and the PCEA itself had been through times of unedifying acrimony and division which lasted from about 1880 to 1903.

There was need for more ministers who adhered with graciousness to the Scriptures, the Westminster Confession and principles which had prospered the early days of the Free Church. The Lord of the Church was raising up more Australian born ministers to assist the faithful men who had left Scotland to help the PCEA.

Three brothers, sons of notable farmer in the Macleay, John Ramsay, offered themselves for the ministry in close succession: John David (JD) in 1908, Herbert William (HW) a year later, followed by Malcolm Campbell (MC) in 1912.

One of the significant encouragers of these men during those years was the Rev. William Nathaniel Wilson, who then resided at Raymond Terrace, part of the Lower Hunter charge. He began his ministry as a student (catechist) in 1879, was licensed by the Presbytery of Maitland in 1884, then ordained and inducted to the Upper Hunter charge in 1886. A

'man without guile', it seems, Rev. Wilson did valuable work in the Hunter Valley for over forty years until his sudden death in 1922.

He had persevered faithfully during the years of denominational disharmony and was well placed to be the encourager of young men aspiring to the ministry. This series reproduces four letters of practical help and encouragement to student Mr Herbert W. Ramsay. They were written over a period of five months, September 1908 to February 1909.

These letters were recently discovered with the late Mrs Margaret Hockett's papers given to elder Gordon Alex Neil in 2005. We are grateful to them both for preserving these letters, the first of which now appears here in print for the first time, with the others to appear in future issues.

### Letter 1

**W.N. Wilson to H.W. Ramsay**

Raymond Terrace, 25th Sept. 1908

Dear Mr Ramsay,

Yours of the 18th current came duly to hand. I was glad to hear from you and to learn that you have been doing what you can towards upholding a testimony for Scriptural religion in your locality. We should be grateful for simple and Spiritual worship worthy of the Creator and should zealously guard it from corruption. I am glad that you feel called and have a longing to do a larger work for God. We have the promise that if we seek to

be faithful in a few things, we shall be called to exercise authority over many things.

My own opinion is that the church has need of such men as yourself who uphold our position as a matter of conviction and are ready to deny themselves rather than forsake it. There is no reason why you should not qualify for our ministry. I am sure we have need of you [for] in our church it is more true than of any other I know of, "The harvest is great but the labourers are few."

The main qualifications for our ministry are a love for our Lord Jesus Christ and Scriptural religion, joined to intelligence and common sense. With this equipment anyone should be able to gain all the fitness needful for the great work of the Christian ministry.

The Question asked of the apostle Peter was "Lovest thou me?" And when he was able to answer "thou knowest that I love thee," he was commissioned to be a preacher.

I feel confident that Presbytery and Synod will give you every encouragement and try to help you. Would you be prepared to go out as a home Missionary? Our home Mission fields are not strong enough to pay a large salary, but if occupied they should improve. With the rent of your farm, and some help from the Church Extension fund, added to what you would receive from the people ministered to, you should get a decent living. And we must not



## History Corner

“In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.” Psalm 22:4

---

forget the promise, “The Lord will provide.”

I will bring the matter before the presbytery as soon as we can hold a meeting. I am hoping that your brother [JD] may receive a call to

the Maclean Congregation which is the most important Free Church congregation in this State.

Trusting that this may find you well and wishing Mrs Ramsay, yourself and all the members of

your home circle many tokens of the Lord’s favour

I am yours truly  
W. N. Wilson

---

## The Broader Body

“A great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne.” Revelation 7:9

---

# Greetings from the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia

Given at Synod 2023, by Lourens Nel

Dear Moderator and brethren,

I am grateful and privileged to be here to bring greetings from the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia. This is the second Synod that I attend, the previous one in Taree in 2019 and I still have fond memories of the time that I spent with you.

Let me start to say we treasure our relationship with you, and it is wonderful to be present with brothers that share our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and the love for the Reformed faith. Our relationship exists for many years, and we are grateful that we could exchange delegates to our Synods from as early as the 1950s, with your Reverend Jim Klazinga who attended our Synod in Riverbank, Tasmania last year.

We are also sharing membership of the International Conference of Reformed Churches, and although you could not be in Namibia for the Conference, I want to report that this was a wonderful time of good fellowship and unity of mind that we experienced at the



ICRC. We are looking forward to the next Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Bali Indonesia in 2024, and the General Conference in South Korea in 2026.

I am also grateful to be a receiver and reader of your Presbyterian Banner, thank you for the articles, devotions, and news that we can share in fellowship with you through this medium.

It is going well in the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia,

through the Lord’s grace alone, although the greatest challenge that we are facing is the significant need for men to prepare for pastoral ministry. We will need 40 Pastors in 2030 and many of our congregations are already vacant. Will you please pray that our Lord will provide for this need?

With our report on ecumenical relations that was approved by Synod in 2022, our CEF relationships with two churches were terminated since there was no repentance in their decisions on homosexuality. We also decided to take up contact with URCNA to evaluate the desirability of entering into Ecclesiastical Fellowship and we had good discussions with delegates at the ICRC.

I want to encourage you today with the word of our Lord in Revelation 3:8: “I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.”

## August Search Work

"Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!" Psalm 119:5

---

### Senior and Intermediate

(Intermediate omit questions 5 and 6)

#### 1 Corinthians Chapter 16

1. What are we to do on the first day of the week?
2. Why was Paul going to tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost?
3. How does Paul describe the household of Stephanas?
4. What does Paul say of the one who does not love the Lord Jesus Christ?

#### 2 Corinthians Chapter 1

5. What purpose does God have in comforting his children in all their tribulation?
6. Why did the apostles have the sentence of death in themselves?
7. Who would be Paul's rejoicing [boast] in the day of the Lord?
8. In whom are all the promises of God Yea [Yes], and Amen?

### Junior

#### Luke Chapter 15

1. In what sense did the poor widow put more into the treasury than the rich? (2 verses)
2. What did Jesus tell the disciples about the hairs of their head?
3. In what manner will the Son of man come?
4. Although heaven and earth pass away, what will not pass away?

Find the verse(s) in the Bible that answer the questions, write/type them out, and send to:

Mrs Irene Steel

18/1-55 West Parade, West Ryde NSW 2114  
or Email: iesteel@gmail.com

A book voucher is awarded at the end of each year to children who send in the answers.

---

## August Prayer Points

"Keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints." Ephesians 6:18

---

**Tuesday, 1st:** Pray for the Brisbane office-bearers: for Rev Jim Klazinga; for elders Stewart Carswell & Wes Hanna; and for deacons Micah Klazinga, Keith Schmidt, and Matthew Schmidt.

**Wednesday, 2nd:** At this year's meeting, it was resolved: "The Synod gives thanks to the Lord for the opportunity and privilege to be involved in the work of missions at home and abroad, both in giving, in praying and being directly involved during this past year." Pray for Shekinah, and for the preparations for her wedding to Nathaniel on the 24th of this month in the Netherlands.

**Thursday, 3rd:** Please pray for our vacant congregations.

**Friday, 4th:** Give thanks that Jean Hearps of the Ulverstone could celebrate her 101st birthday on 25th June.

**Saturday, 5th:** Pray for the older members in our congregations dealing with various health struggles.

**Sunday, 6th:** R.B. Kuiper writes in "The Glorious Body of Christ" about how the church is apostolic, which means that it "is founded upon the teaching of the apostles." Give thanks for the teaching of the apostles, the gospel of Jesus Christ

recorded in the Bible, and pray that these teachings may continue to be preached from our pulpits.

**Monday, 7th:** Pray for the ongoing ministry of the Ulverstone congregation.

**Tuesday, 8th:** Pray for Zach Dotson's service in Ulverstone. Pray for the Ulverstone office-bearers: for elder Ian Hamilton, and for deacon Robert Hingston.

**Wednesday, 9th:** Pray for the continuing ministry of the Presbyterian Free Church of Central India. Give thanks for our relationship with them.

## August Prayer Points

“Keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.” Ephesians 6:18

---

**Thursday, 10th:** Pray for Hawkesbury Nepean members Allan Stewart and Finau Latu, who have both been diagnosed with serious forms of cancer.

**Friday, 11th:** Give thanks for the baptism of James Joel Scot, infant son of Joel and Anca Scot. Pray for the Scot family, as they are currently on an extended stay in Europe.

**Saturday, 12th:** Give thanks for the baptism of Zara, infant daughter of Hunter members Mrs Amy and Mr Oringo.

**Sunday, 13th:** The Westminster Shorter Catechism, in Q&A 90, teaches, “That the Word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation and prayer.” Pray that God by His Spirit may enable the members in our congregations to do this as the Word is read, sung, and preached today.

**Monday, 14th:** Pray for the ongoing ministry of the Geelong congregation.

**Tuesday, 15th:** Pray for the Geelong elder, Donald Ramsay. Pray also for him in his work as clerk of Southern Presbytery.

**Wednesday, 16th:** Pray for the work of the Dumisani Theological Institute in South Africa.

**Thursday, 17th:** At this year’s meeting, it was affirmed that synod “gives thanks to God for the churches with whom we have

formal fraternal relations and for those churches with whom we have contact, and resolve to pray for the Lord’s blessing upon their work and witness.” Please pray for the ministry of the Presbyterian Reformed Church of Australia, and of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Australia. Pray for our relationship and contact with them.

**Friday, 18th:** Give thanks for the 20 May wedding of Brisbane members Weylin and Irene Morrison.

**Saturday, 19th:** Pray for Ian Hamilton of the Ulverstone congregation during his continuing recuperation after surgery intended to prevent future collapsed lungs.

**Sunday, 20th:** From a prayer entitled, ‘Meeting God,’ from ‘The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions’ – “Urged by my need, invited by thy promises, called by thy spirit, I enter thy presence, worshipping thee with godly fear, awed by thy majesty, greatness, glory, but encouraged by thy love.” Pray that those attending our worship services today may do so with a sense of awe and godly fear.

**Monday, 21st:** Pray for the ministry of the Carrum Downs congregation.

**Tuesday, 22nd:** Pray for the work of Rev Ian Hall in Carrum Downs. Pray also for Rev David Kumnick.

**Wednesday, 23rd:** Pray for the work of the San Andres school in Peru.

**Thursday, 24th:** Give thanks that Jedidiah Hitchens could profess his faith and become a member of the Brisbane congregation.

**Friday, 25th:** Pray for Sylvia Loney, formerly of the Ulverstone congregation, who has relocated to Western Australia.

**Saturday, 26th:** Pray for the ongoing Bible Studies held in our congregations.

**Sunday, 27th:** John Owen, in his collected works, writes, “He hath appointed the preaching of the word to be the means, the only outward ordinary means, for the conversion of the souls of men, 1 Cor. 1:17–20; Mark 16:15, 16; Rom. 1:16. And the power or efficacy of anything that is used unto an end in spiritual matters depends solely on its divine appointment unto that end.” Give thanks that God has appointed His Word to be preached from our pulpits.

**Monday, 28th:** Pray for the ministry of the Narre Warren congregation.

**Tuesday, 29th:** Pray for the Narre Warren office-bearers: for Rev Andres Miranda, and for elders Terry Buck and John Disney.

**Wednesday, 30th:** Pray for the work of Dr Dickson in Delhi, India.

**Thursday, 31st:** Pray for those older Brisbane members who are currently struggling with serious health difficulties.



