

"The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer." Psalm 18:2

The Presbyterian Banner



August 2025

This Issue

“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6

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From the Editor



You’re listening to a formal debate between a believer and an unbeliever, you hear the non-Christian say something, and you think to yourself of a passage from the Bible that makes mincemeat of his argument. But the Christian doesn’t mention that passage, or any other. He may very well have considered that biblical truth, but he won’t bring it up, because he believes his debate partner will simply dismiss the Bible out of hand.

Perhaps the Christian believes that he doesn’t even need to quote the Bible, because he can find common ground with the atheist based on reason and logic.

To be sure, there may be instances where we use the atheist’s own methods and arguments against him, pointing out his foolishness.

But at the same time, we have to realize that we don’t have common ground with the atheist when it comes to our understanding of what truth is and how it is that we come to know the truth.

When it comes right down to it, we hold to different assumptions. As faithful Bible-believing Christians, we fully admit that we believe that the Bible teaches what we need to know about truth, and what we need to know about human nature and human behaviour. It teaches us the meaning of life.

And of course, of first importance, it teaches us about God, about who He is, what He does, and how it is that we are able to know Him and relate to Him.

This is our basic premise. And this is the way we support what we confess and believe, by turning to the Bible.

Jim Klazinga

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Malcolm MacInnes, Part 7

by John Audet

The previous article ended with the conclusion of MacInnes' work in the Wimmera district following the induction of Rev. J.A. Nicol, and his removal to the neighbouring Avoca district where he resided in the town of Charlton. His workload in the Avoca district was no lighter than it had been in the Wimmera.

In August 1884 MacInnes wrote; "There are ten stations in the district at which I now officiate regularly, on Sabbath and weekdays, besides one, at which I conduct services on weekdays only, viz., Wychitella." Three months later, he wrote; "Matters in connection with the cause here continue about the same as when I last wrote; I have now twelve preaching stations." He hardly needed to add that he had "enough to do to supply them all." Clearly he could not have supplied all of these stations as often as he might have liked. Nevertheless, by preaching three times each Lord's Day at different locations and by conducting services on weekdays, he was able to supply all of them on a reasonably regular basis.

This record of activity prompted Rev. Arthur Paul to write; "the labours of our catechist in the Avoca district have always been distinguished for unobtrusive and persevering fidelity. Nothing, in

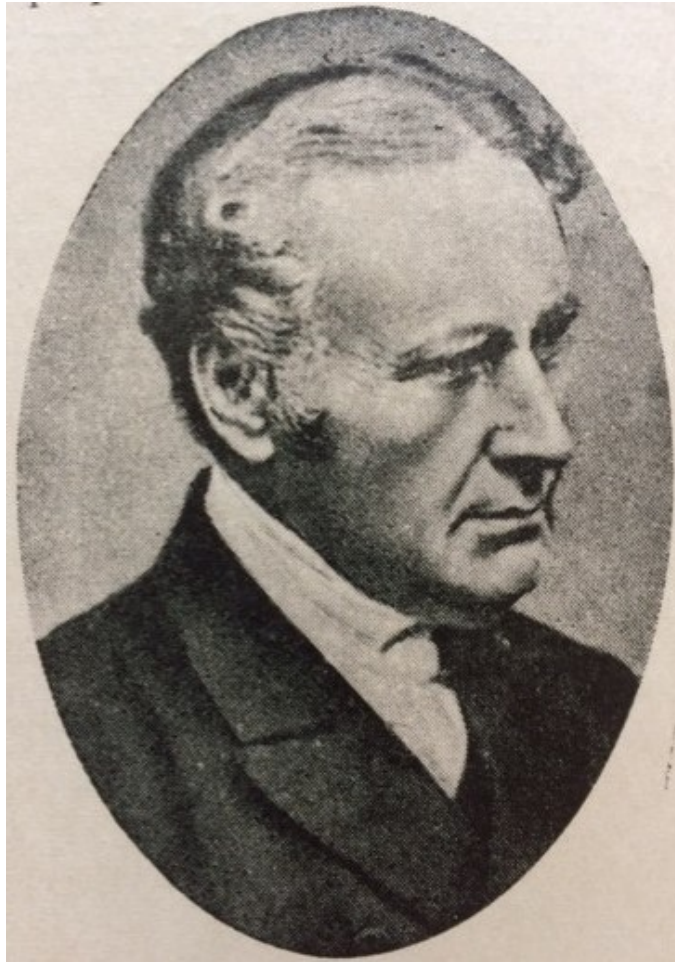


photo depicts Malcolm MacInnes outside that church.

As the 1890's progressed, MacInnes found the workload increasingly difficult. The need for constant travel during hot inland summers was a particular trial which ultimately proved to be beyond him. He felt obliged to retire in 1898, at the age of 73. Malcolm and Jane set out from Charlton in May 1898, heading west towards the home of their eldest son near Horsham. They encountered particularly cold weather as they crossed the plains and at one stage were forced to take shelter in a barn. The severity of the journey was

the way of self-glorification, is heard from him; yet his visitations and addresses and journeyings go on, from year's end to year's end."

Malcolm MacInnes had been a member of the church at Hamilton during his brief residence there, and transferred his membership to Charlton when steps were finally taken to establish a congregation along regular lines in 1888. Though he may have had the heaviest preaching workload in the Free Presbyterian Church of Victoria for many years, he did not have a seat in any court of the church until ordained to the eldership at Charlton in 1891. In the same year, a simple timber church was built in Charlton. The accompanying

too much for Jane, who was six years older than Malcolm. She died shortly after arrival at their son's home.

During his retirement MacInnes wrote the manuscript which has been drawn upon extensively for this series. He preached when able, even as far away as Nareen.

His eldest son, John, had the reputation of being a Christian, but there is little evidence that his younger son, Alan, made any profession at all. Alan was present when Malcolm died in 1903, and reported that the last struggling words of one who was an evangelist to the end were "Alan....Saviour."

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Brisbane

[Report by Jim Klazinga]

Members of the congregation were joined by a number of visitors for a Family Tea and Missions Evening on Friday, 25 July. Our special guests were Tim and Rosalind Burden from the UK. Tim is the developer of Middle East Reformed Fellowship’s Augustine Biblical Training program, and he gave a presentation on his work. (Note the picture of Tim and Rosalind on this month’s front cover, along with pictures from the fellowship meal on the back cover.)

On Sunday, 27 July, Tim preached for us during our morning service.

This day happened to be the Burden’s 40th wedding anniversary. The following week, they were able to celebrate with some holiday time in Brisbane, after which they flew to Indonesia to continue their work for MERF.

Last month it was reported that Isaac Klazinga and Eloise Bosveld became engaged to be married. An engagement party was held for them on 2 August at the church. It was attended by members of the congregation, along with other family and friends. Eloise’s parents even flew up from Hobart for the occasion.

Eloise is hoping to move up to Brisbane in September, and the wedding is scheduled to be held in Hobart on 6 December.

This month it can be reported that Isaac’s older brother Caleb and Eloise’s older sister Robyn are also now engaged to be married.



We rejoice with them and their families. The date for their wedding has yet to be determined.

Robyn is currently working in Hobart in her second year of internship as a medical doctor.

A baby shower was held for Jessie and Stephen Smith on 9 August. They are expecting their first child to be born around the end of October.

Along with Stephen and Jessie, as well as Micah and Lauren Klazinga (expecting their second boy in September), a third young couple is expecting a baby.

Hainian and Naomi Yu recently announced Naomi’s pregnancy. They currently live in Rockhampton, where Naomi is working as a midwife, and Hainian is working in the area for his last year of medical school. He also makes time in his busy schedule to teach music.

After their first baby is born, Lord willing, in February, they hope to move back to Brisbane, where Hainian plans to start an internship at the Prince Charles hospital next June.

Please remember our expectant mothers and their babies in your prayers.

Please also pray for Beth Anderson as she recuperates from broken ribs she experienced as a result of a fall. A cold has made her recovery more painful.

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Hastings

[Report by John Forbes]

It’s been a few months since Hastings sent in news to the Banner. A significant event not

yet reported was the marriage of two of our young members Steven Hamilton and Alyssa Morris on 24th April. The wedding ceremony took place in the beautiful setting of Moripo Park, just outside Wauchope, and the reception was held in the PCEA church hall. Steven has now completed his apprenticeship and qualified as an electrician and they have bought a house in Weismantle Street.

It was a privilege to host Synod in May and we are thankful to the Lord for the willing volunteers in the congregation who made this possible. It also provided a helpful deadline for completion of significant internal repairs and redecoration of the church.

We say farewell to Hugh Marshall who came to Wauchope in January to work for a local law firm. He will now move to Melbourne to begin study of a Masters course before taking up a role as a judge’s associate. He has been a blessing to this congregation, taking full part in congregational life and assisting with precenting when Sonja has been away. We are sure he will be a blessing to the churches in Melbourne.

* * * * *

Hunter

[Report by Ian Miller]

During August we look forward to pulpit supply by a few of our offices bearers, Rev Don Burgess and Mr Andrew Bajema.

In common with other congregations, winter illnesses have been a challenge especially for our older folk. Attendance at worship has consequently been adversely affected.

Our deacons are planning a working bee to address much needed maintenance of the Cardiff hall.

Mr Bajema has been capably leading our mid-week Bible study which focuses upon the spiritual gems found in Hosea's prophecy.

We continue in prayer for significant matters including persecuted brethren worldwide, our wayward nation, our sister congregations, missionary endeavours and the Lord's provision of ministers and office bearers.

* * * * *

Hawkesbury Nepean

[Report by Elizabeth Muldoon]

Greetings from Mt Druitt.

This month we had a baptism in our church. Not a baby as such, but a newly born Christian. Jon became a Christian about a year ago and, as he came from a non-Christian family, he had never been baptised. He wanted to obey the Bible and take this step. It was a joy to hear him confirm his belief in the Bible as the Word of God and to express his faith in the gracious death of the Lord Jesus Christ for his sins and his

knowledge of these sins being forgiven. We pray that the Lord will bless Jon and keep him every day as he seeks to follow Jesus.

Tim and Rosalind Burden, workers with the Middle East Reformed Fellowship, visited Sydney and some members of our church were able to attend a luncheon where he shared about the work of MERF in the Middle East but also in Africa and Indonesia. One aspect of the work of MERF is outreach through media programmes and another aspect is the training of young Christian men, pastors or evangelists, in a deeper knowledge of the Reformed truths of the Bible. It was very encouraging and helpful to hear about this work.

Our pastor, Dennis, and his wife, Elizabeth, will be going to Africa for 5 weeks to take part in one of these training programmes. Pastor Dennis will be teaching a course known as The Augustinian Programme in a Bible School in Kenya. They will then travel to South Africa on a brief visit to the Reformed Seminary there. Dennis and Elizabeth would value your prayers for health and strength and safety, but also that they will be able to reflect the character of Jesus by being gracious, humble, loving and kind as they share Bible truths with African brothers and sister.

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Manning

[Report by Joyce Bennett]

We as a congregation thank the Lord for his wonderful provision of godly men to come and faithfully proclaim the Word of

God to us while we have a vacancy in our pulpit.

Please bring Paul and Tracey Dyson before the Lord, and ask that He might give comfort and peace to them as they face the uncertain future together.

Congratulations to Young & Eunice Lee as they rejoice in the safe arrival of Evonne, their first granddaughter born to Chuck & Joy, a little sister for Eden.

Once again the Lord has blessed us with a successful garage sale where over \$500 was raised for missions that we support.

* * * * *

Melbourne

[Report by George Ball]

We have been praying that the Lord would grant clarity and peace to Rev. David Lachman as he responds to our call to him to be our Pastor. Perhaps by the time you read this news his decision may already be known. He intends to give his reply when his Presbytery meets on 16th August.

We also record with sadness the death of Rev Ian J. McKenzie on Saturday 5th July at the age of 94 in Glasgow. Ian was born on a dairy farm in New South Wales – the seventh of eight children. At the age of 15, he became a believer in the Lord Jesus, responding to a Beach Mission during the family's Christmas holidays.

After completing his schooling, he joined the New South Wales Bank, where he worked for nine years. During this time, he became interested in mission work and responded to God's call by moving to Scotland and training for the

ministry at the Free Church College in Edinburgh. He was ordained as a minister of the Free Church of Scotland and his first charge was as Superintendent of the Indian Mission in Madhya Pradesh in 1964, where he continued to serve for the next 20 years. He and Alina Murchison were married in Lakhnadon, India in 1966. They had three sons, Bruce, Iain Alastair and Johnny, all born in Central India.

In 1984, Ian and Alina returned to Scotland, serving as missionaries to the Asian community in Glasgow. After a couple of years, the mission was extended to include international students studying in Glasgow. He continued in this service until he retired in 1998.

Upon retirement he and Alina arrived in Australia, where they worked for almost ten years. During this time, Ian served as Resident Supply Minister in Armidale and latterly in Glenhuntly, Melbourne. The Melbourne members who remain remember him with great fondness.

In 2007, Ian and Alina returned to Scotland and resettled in the West End of Glasgow, continuing a ministry to international students through a regular Bible study in their home until 2022. Throughout his ministry for the Lord in different countries, Ian was wonderfully supported and encouraged by Alina. Wherever they served, the door of their home was always open for those in need. No one left without hearing the word of God and being prayed for. Ian's life was one of consistent

service, sharing the hope of Christ with people from all nations. He was known for his kindness, steadfastness and a gracious Christian character. He lived not for himself, but for the cause of Christ and His people. He will be deeply missed by his wife Alina, his sons and their families, his five grandchildren and the orphan children who grew up under his care in India. "You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy: At Your right hand are pleasures for evermore." (Psalm 16:11).

* * * * *

Northern Rivers

[Report by Beth Sonter]

We have experienced a relatively quiet month for congregational life in the Northern Rivers. The usual services and mid week meetings have taken place.

As is our normal practice we enjoy a church lunch on the first Sunday of each month. Lunches are a special time together as we learn of what is going on in the lives of other friends and families and as ever some lovely food is enjoyed.

During July our dear Catherine MacLeod spent some time in hospital. We are pleased that she is home and recovering. I am sure that Catherine enjoyed having her son Donald visiting from Scotland during this time.

Our elder, John Greensill and his wife Judy, will be absent from us for some time as they enjoy some well earned vacation time travelling in their motorhome.

* * * * *

St Georges

[Report by Alex Steel]

Our mid-week prayer meeting on 23 July included a presentation by Pastor Tim Burden, developer of Middle East Reformed Fellowship's Augustine Biblical Training Programme in North Africa and Indonesia. His presentation was well received with him mainly explaining MERF's training efforts in North Africa.

The restoration and repairs of our church building are progressing with the completion of new stormwater drainage works in July. The installation of mesh screening for protection of a large heritage listed sign on an adjoining building, the erection of a street hoarding / gantry and commencement of scaffolding of the church steeple are planned for August.

* * * * *

Ulverstone

[Report by Zach Dotson]

We closed on the manse on July 31st, and are now beginning the process of hurried renovations so the Dotson Family can move in. On September 6th, a little girl is expected by the Dotson household - at least that's when Wilma is due.

We are holding our 30th annual "Winter Car Rally" on August 2nd, and it is being looked forward to with much anticipation.

Congregational life continues, and we are praying for congregational growth. Pastor Dotson has been conducting open-air witness and street evangelism for several months now. He has

had some encouraging conversations and many opportunities to distribute Bibles, tracts and to discuss the Gospel. Please pray for our open-air evangelistic efforts, that Christ would use our witness to build His Kingdom.

Please also pray for the manse purchase and moving arrangements. Lastly, we ask that you please remember the various health and Spiritual needs of our congregation in your prayers.

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Ulverstone Car Rally

[Report by Emma Pilgrim]

On Saturday, August 2nd, we held the 30th Annual Winter Car Rally. The Winter Car Rally is one of the fellowship highlights for many in our congregation. We spend the day competing in an observational challenge, spotting

the answers to sometimes tricky questions as travel. Over the 30 years we have journeyed to many interesting parts of the Northwest Coast, but this year we covered a shorter distance from Ulverstone to Penguin and back and, instead, focused on finding interesting things along the way. We had a lovely time of fellowship, picnicking together in the sunshine while the kids enjoyed the playground.

For one person it was the 29th time they had competed in the rally, missing only one year due to family circumstances. For others, it was the first time that they had been to the rally and, for one, it was the first time coming to our Church. Over the years, the rally has been a



have also found it to be a great time to connect with those from other Churches, and we are usually joined by at least one team from another Church.

We had a very competitive rally, with very little separating the top three teams at the end of the day. The winning team not only earns the trophy, but also the privilege and responsibility of planning next year's rally. This year's winners were a team from Launceston - Nathan Patrick of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Steve and Julie Kingston of the Southern Presbyterian Church. We look forward to seeing what they come up with for the 31st.



FAMILY CAMP 2025

**Monday 22nd - Thursday 25th September
At Camp Elim, Forster, NSW**

**Speaker: Rev Robin Tso
Theme: God's Gift of Family**

Jesus' Teaching About Prayer

from MERF's Augustine Programme, by Rev Timothy Burden

Tim and Rosalind Burden from the UK recently visited a couple of our congregations. (See this month's church news reports from Brisbane, Hawkesbury Nepean, and St Georges. Also see the photos on this month's front and back covers.)

Tim is the developer of Middle East Reformed Fellowship's Augustine Biblical Training program. This program was developed to help train church leaders in countries where MERF operates, especially in Africa and Indonesia, so that these leaders may then be better equipped to teach their people.

Tim gave us permission to reprint a sample of material from MERF's Augustine Programme, Section 1 of Unit 1.

Section 1 is entitled "Learning From Jesus," and covers: 'Serving as Jesus Served,' 'Jesus' Use of Time,' 'Jesus and Money,' and 'Jesus and Prayer.' The following is a portion from the sub-section 'Jesus and Prayer.'

1. Jesus teaching about prayer

God wants all people everywhere to pray Mk.11:19, Is.56:7

The temple was built as a place where God and humans could meet, a place of prayer. Read Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple. 2 Chron.6&7. He asked again and again that as prayers were offered in or towards the Temple that God would hear from heaven, forgive and save. God seeks people to worship Him

in Spirit and in truth, John 4:23-24.

Be at peace with others before you pray. Matt.5:23. The God of peace wants us, as far as it is possible for us, to be at peace with others. We should have tried to be reconciled to any we have offended if we are to expect God to hear our prayers. See Psalm 66:18 and 1 Peter 3:7.

Prayer for enemies Matt.5:43-45

This is a great challenge when enemies have been so cruel. We can find help from the Lord Jesus Himself who prayed for those who were crucifying Him. "Father forgive them, they don't know what they are doing."

How not to pray Matt.6:5-8, 7:21-23

- Do not pray like the hypocrites. They are praying to impress other people, not to draw near to God. Their prayers are only aimed at the ears and eyes of others and for their own glory.

- Do not pray like the heathen. They have false ideas about God. They think he is like their images and idols, deaf, careless, needing to be impressed before he will even think about them. Remember Elijah and the prophets of Baal in 1 Kings 18. Our God is a Father who cares and hears.

Think of the two hour pagan repetition of "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians". It was all a confused, mindless, engaging empty mantra. It was worship reflecting the mindless empty god they worshipped. True worship should reflect the glory of the True God, in all His intelligence,

wisdom, holiness, fullness and love.

We should be careful about how repetitive songs can be. Endless repetition is more like the mantras of godless worship. Read the Psalms, Israel's song book, repetition is there but it is limited.

Forgiving others is important for our praying. Matt.6:14, 18:35

It is not that we earn God's forgiveness by our forgiving. NO! Never! It is that we express our gratitude and understanding of God's mercy in forgiving us by being ready and willing to forgive those who sin against us. The parable makes it clear that the enormous debt of our sins for which we have been forgiven, must make us willing to forgive others. If it doesn't then we may not have grasped how wonderful God's mercy is.

Don't be anxious, trust and ask your Father in heaven Matt.6:25-7:11

Pray for workers to be sent into God's harvest. Matt.9:36-10:7

The church has a great responsibility in seeking and training workers who will take the Gospel out and teach the new members of the congregations, 2 Tim.2:1-2. Part of that responsibility is to pray for the workers to be called of God and sent by Him.

Prayer is vital in spiritual battles. Mk.9:28-29

The disciples had been able to cast out demons before in Jesus' name (Matt.10:5-8) but they were helpless in this case of demon possession. They wisely ask Jesus

about their failure. Before they seem to have been carried along by the power Jesus had given them for that mission Matt.10:1, but spiritual power can only be sustained by continued exercise of faith (Matt.17:20) and the continued communion with God in prayer. Mk.9:29 In our spiritual warfare we must be people of sustained prayer, Eph.6:13-18, 2 Cor.10:3-6.

Prayers about holiness and harmony in the church. Matt.18:15-19

In this passage the Lord Jesus is talking about keeping the church pure by Christian brothers and sisters challenging those who have sinned against them. If their challenge doesn't work they should take another with them to support the challenge and be a witness to the response. If that fails then the whole congregation needs to become involved. It is obviously a sin of some public seriousness; the kind of sin that could infect and ruin the church's life and witness (1 Cor.5:6—13). Such delicate matters need to be dealt with in love and certainly with much prayer. The Lord Jesus is encouraging united prayerfulness here. He promises that if in handling these matters two agree on what is needed, they should make it a matter of prayer and the Father will give them what they ask. He will do so because as they gather together in Jesus' Name and for His honour, He is there with them, guiding, supporting and ready to answer their prayer.

Faith is vital Mk.11:11-23

The cursing of the fig tree confuses many people. It might look like a senseless act of sinful irritation, but it cannot be so. The

Lord Jesus is sinless. The action must be linked to the passage before it that records Jesus going to the Temple, that mountainous structure in Jerusalem.

Jesus had gone there and looked round intently. He was wanting to find people meeting with God in prayer (Matt.21:12-13). He came to the fig tree and looked intently, trying to find what you would expect on a fig tree, figs.

The temple would be destroyed before long because the people refused the true way to God and crucified Him (John 14:, Matt.24:1-2). Jesus believed this. The cursing of the fig tree was a visual parable preparing the disciples for the curse that would fall on Jerusalem and the removal of the mountainous structure of the Temple. When Jesus says; “have faith in God” and “Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have it and it will be yours.” He doesn't mean by faith, a kind of self-persuasion or self-generated hope. He means a God given and God directed conviction grounded in God's Word and ways. Such faith is the fuel of prayer.

Prayer in His Name and the joy of answered prayer. John 16:23-28

“Whatever you ask of the Father...He will give it to you.” This sounds like a promise of unlimited answers to prayer. If we treat it in that way we would be wrong. There are some very important words missing from the quotation, they are “in My Name.” Those words make a great difference. What do they mean?

They do not mean that if we say, “In the Name of Jesus!” at the end of or throughout the prayer then God will certainly answer.

The Name of Jesus is not a magic wand that we wave our words of our prayers or a spell we put into them transforming into answers.

The Name of Jesus is like His brand name. It speaks of His character, His quality, His ambitions, His uniqueness and what He is all about. To pray in His Name puts a glorious limit on our praying. It is like God's command to Adam in the Garden of Eden. He could eat of every tree in the garden except one tree in the middle of the garden, the “Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.” The Lord Jesus is promising us, we can ask anything that is within the boundaries of His character, will, mind, heart, purpose and purity and it will be given to us from the Father. Asking for things outside of Jesus' Name, character and ‘Brand’ will not be granted.

When we come to the Father with our prayers, He should be able to recognize His Son in our requests. He should be able to see our love for His Son in what we are asking. He loves us for that and will give what we ask for the sake of His Son, John 16:36-37.

There is a joy in this kind of praying (v24). To be in love with the Lord Jesus, to frame our prayers out of that love and understanding of what He is like and would like. To be loved by the Father for our love of His Son and to have such prayers answered so that Jesus will be glorified and the Father glorified in Him is the sort of praying we should aim at.

We need to know and love the Lord Jesus better so that our prayers will truly be In His Name.

August Search Work

"Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart." Psalm 119:2

Senior and Intermediate
(Intermediate omit questions 2 and 6)

Junior

Acts 14

1. Why did Paul and Barnabas have to flee from Iconium? (2 verses)
2. When they had cured the cripple in Lystra, what did Paul and Barnabas say to prevent the people sacrificing to them? (3 verses)
3. What did the Jews from Antioch and Iconium persuade the people at Lystra to do to Paul?
4. When Paul returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, what did he exhort the disciples to do?

Acts 15

5. About what question did the brethren determine to send Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem? (2 verses)
6. Write out the 2 verses in Amos chapter 9 that James quotes.
7. What did the church decide were the necessary things from which the Gentile Christians should abstain?
8. What was the result of the contention between Paul and Barnabas? (2 verses)

John 9:1-7

1. For what reason did Jesus say the man was born blind?
2. How did Jesus cure the man's blindness? (2 verses)

John 9:35-41

3. What did the man do when Jesus told him that he was the Son of God?
4. What was Jesus' reply when the Pharisees asked him, "Are we blind also?"

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

"I thank God... as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day." 2 Timothy 1:3

Friday, 1st: Give thanks that Tim Georges office-bearers: for Rev Burden of MERF and his wife Robin Tso; for elders Donald Adams of the Hawkesbury Nepean congregation, who is going to Fiji with his wife Vivienne to conduct a Masters course at the Bible College of Fiji. Pray for safe travel and for the Lord's blessing on his teaching. Pray for their son Nathan who ministers in this college.

Saturday, 2nd: Pray for our vacant congregations as they consider the matter of calling a pastor.

Sunday, 3rd: Pray that God may enable us in our worship services to glorify God as God.

Monday, 4th: Pray for the ministry of the St Georges congregation in Sydney.

Tuesday, 5th: Pray for the St

Wednesday, 6th: 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 the ministry of Rev. Shanmugan Partheepan in the Reformed Protestant Mission in Sri Lanka.

Thursday, 7th: Pray for Arthur Adams of the Hawkesbury Nepean congregation, who is going to Fiji with his wife Vivienne to conduct a Masters course at the Bible College of Fiji. Pray for safe travel and for the Lord's blessing on his teaching. Pray for their son Nathan who ministers in this college.

Friday, 8th: Pray for Jon, who was baptized in the Hawkesbury Nepean congregation. Pray that the Lord will bless Jon and keep him as he seeks to follow Jesus.

Saturday, 9th: Pray for Paul & Tracey Dyson of the Manning

August Prayer Points

"I thank God... as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day." 2 Timothy 1:3

congregation, that the Lord might give comfort and peace to them in a time of uncertainty when it comes to health.

Sunday, 10th: The WLC in Q&A 185 teaches, "We are to pray with an awful apprehension of the majesty of God, and deep sense of our own unworthiness, necessities, and sins; with penitent, thankful, and enlarged hearts; with understanding, faith, sincerity, fervency, love, and perseverance, waiting upon him, with humble submission to his will." Pray that God may work in us by Spirit, that the prayers offered up in our services today may be prayed with thankful and humble hearts.

Monday, 11th: Pray for the ongoing ministry of the Hunter congregation in Cardiff and Raymond Terrace.

Tuesday, 12th: Pray for the Hunter office-bearers: for elder Ian Miller; and for deacons Richard Alley, David Barnes, John Fluit, Ken George and Ian King.

Wednesday, 13th: Pray for the work of the Dumisani Theological Institute in South Africa.

Thursday, 14th: Pray for the Dotson family in Ulverstone, as they prepare to move into the new manse, and as they anticipate the birth of another daughter in early September.

Friday, 15th: Pray for the families in the Brisbane congregation anticipating the birth of children: Micah and Lauren Klazinga, Stephen and Jesse Smith, and Hainian and Naomi Yu.

Saturday, 16th: Pray for Dennis and Elizabeth Muldoon as they prepare to be in Africa for five weeks, where Dennis will be teaching at a Bible School in Kenya.

Sunday, 17th: Praise God that his covenant of grace with us is unalterably grounded in his mercies, and that we can celebrate this as we gather together for worship.

Monday, 18th: Pray for the continuing ministry of the Manning congregation in Taree.

Tuesday, 19th: Pray for the Southern Presbytery, who are scheduled to have an online meeting tonight.

Wednesday, 20th: Pray for the Manning office-bearers: for elders Clive Alley, Young Lee, Trevor Leggott, Neil Robinson, and Peter Smith; and for deacons Paul Dyson, Mark Hamilton, Marshall Reid, Alistair Weber, and David Wilson.

Thursday, 21st: 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 Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America. Pray for our relationship and contact with them.

Friday, 22nd: Give thanks that Steven and Alyssa Hamilton of the Hastings congregation could get

married this past April. (see page 4)

Saturday, 23rd: Pray for Isaac Klazinga and Eloise Bosveld, as well as for Caleb Klazinga and Robyn Bosveld, as they prepare for their weddings. (see page 4)

Sunday, 24th: Pray that the Word preached from our pulpits today may work in the hearts of the hearers, so that they put their trust in the promises of God in Christ Jesus and not in ephemeral things.

Monday, 25th: Pray for the ministry of the Hastings congregation in Wauchope.

Tuesday, 26th: Pray for the Hastings office-bearers: for Rev John Forbes; for elders Doug Hamilton and Glen Hamilton; and for deacon Neil McKinnon.

Wednesday, 27th: Pray for Young Lee and his work with Indigenous children in Taree.

Thursday, 28th: Pray for the older members in our congregations dealing with the physical struggles that often accompany advanced age.

Friday, 29th: Pray for preparations being made for September's PCEA Family Camp being held at Camp Elim.

Saturday, 30th: Pray for Robin Tso, as he prepares to speak at next month's Family Camp.

Sunday, 31st: Give thanks that today we worship the God who has credited us with the perfect righteousness and holiness of Christ, that we may be enabled to praise Him!

