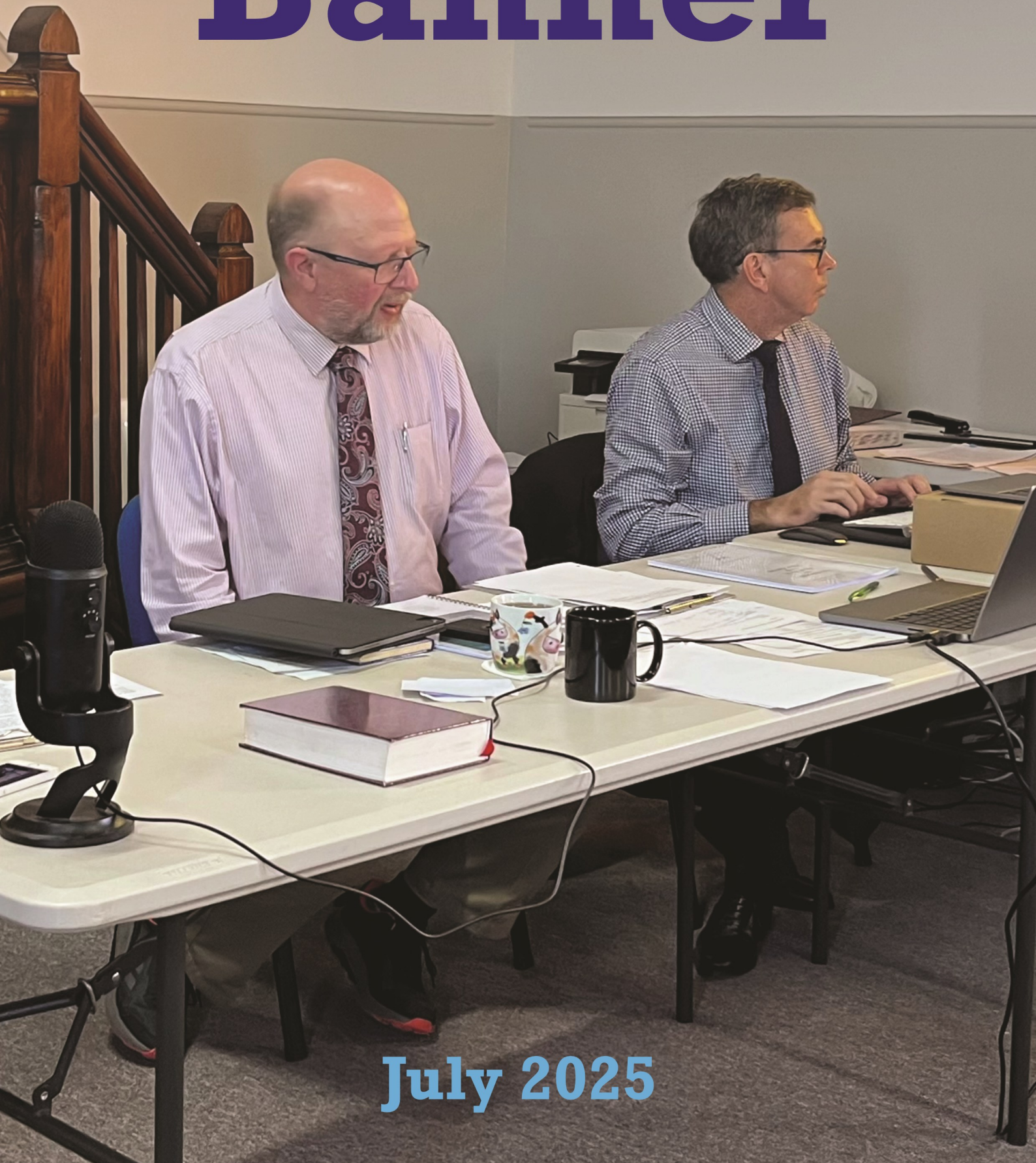


**"The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer." Psalm 18:2**

# **The Presbyterian Banner**



**July 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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### Meditation: Walk Humbly With Your God

By Jim Klazinga

*The following is an edited version of the moderator’s final morning meditation at Synod 2025.*

We’ve been considering this week Micah 6, a covenant lawsuit brought by God against his people.

And we’ve been focussing especially on verse 8, “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?” In this verse, the Lord points out the legal standard that he is accusing them of breaking in this lawsuit against them.

This morning we focus on the third and final matter addressed in this verse: to walk humbly with your God.

Last, but certainly not least. One might even say that of the three, this one provides the necessary foundation for the other two. You can never truly ‘do justly,’ acting justly in a biblical manner, a manner that stands in contrast to the injustice God was accusing his people of, unless you are walking humbly with your God.

And how can you love mercy, how can you love showing kindness, goodness, faithfulness, loyalty, and so forth, living lives of mercy as God calls you to live, unless you truly love the mercy that God has so abundantly poured out on you? And how can you know how desperately you need his mercy, if you do not humble yourself before him?

Were the people in Micah’s day walking humbly

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

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

with their God? Not exactly. Just look at what those who were supposed to be mouthpieces for God, the prophets, what they were doing.

We read in Micah 3:5, “Thus says the Lord concerning the prophets Who make my people stray; Who chant ‘Peace’ While they chew with their teeth, But who prepare war against him Who puts nothing into their mouths.”

They were promoting a message that suited their own selfish purposes, rather than the hard message God called them to proclaim. Hardly being a model of walking humbly with God.

If you are not walking humbly with God, then you are walking in pride.

Pride, which is so insidiously dangerous, which we all struggle with to one degree or another. Pride, which creeps into our hearts so easily, because it is so much a part of the sinful nature that continues to haunt us.

These days, pride is often seen as a good thing, at least in some contexts. The word pride has become associated with encouraging people, especially young people, to find their identity in sexual inclinations outside God’s norms. We have pride days and pride months, with pride flags waved proudly.

My wife and I have had some contact with the mental health system in Queensland. In some respects, in the providence of God, we have been blessed by this. But on this issue, the system is horrendous. The few young people we’ve met through that

system were in one way or another struggling with their sexual identities. They were encouraged to take pride in being outside God’s norms, which did not help, but, in our admittedly limited observations, it invariably made things worse. Exactly what you would expect when you have a biblical view of life.

What does the Bible say about pride? Proverbs 6:16-17 tells us that a proud look is an abomination to the Lord. Proverbs 16:5, “Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.” Pride stands in stark contrast to the wisdom revealed by God.

C.S. Lewis puts it so well in his book “Mere Christianity,” “Pride always means enmity - it is enmity. And not only enmity between man and man, but enmity to God. In God you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that - and therefore, know yourself as nothing in comparison - you do not know God at all. As long as you are proud, you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people: and of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something above.”

There is profound wisdom in what Lewis is saying here. You’re looking down from a prideful position, you can’t look up to God. To know God, you have to walk humbly before him.

Plus, when you are looking down in pride, not only can you not look up to God, but you also

can’t look around you to others, others who are on the same level as you are, you can’t look upon them with love.

The Bible calls us to live in harmony with one another. Pride makes it impossible to do this. Proverbs 13:10 tells us, “By pride comes nothing but strife.”

Yes, strife may at some points be unavoidable. Romans 12:18 tells us, “If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.” But don’t look at this verse as giving you permission to act in pride.

We read in James 3:17,18 - “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” Christian wisdom is a wisdom that is peace-loving. This is not some simple-minded cliché that we can ignore whenever it doesn’t suit us. This is the word of God.

Brothers and sisters, we can’t escape this truth. The word of God is full of demands that the people of God be a humble, peace-loving people, rather than a pride-filled, strife loving people.

Let’s remember this as we finish our business today. Let’s remember this as we resume our callings in our congregations. As those redeemed by the blood of Christ, may we call upon God to increase our sanctification by the power of his Spirit, so that more and more, we do justly, we love mercy, and we walk humbly with our God.



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## Brisbane

[Report by Jim Klazinga]

The congregation rejoiced to hear news of Isaac Klazinga’s engagement to Eloise Bosveld, a



member of the Southern Presbyterian church in Hobart. Eloise is hoping to move up to Brisbane, perhaps in September, and their wedding is scheduled for 6 December in Hobart.

It is also noteworthy that Isaac’s brother Caleb and Eloise’s sister Robyn are themselves in a serious relationship.

We were thankful to have as guests Samit and Pradeep from the PFCCI. They came to Brisbane with Pastor Jim immediately following the recent synod meeting. We had an evening family tea with them on Saturday, 10 May, which was followed by them giving a presentation on the Lord’s work in the PFCCI and the mission school in Chhapara in Central India. The following day, we celebrated the Lord’s Supper together during the morning

service, and Samit preached God’s Word to us during the evening service.

On 12 May, Pastor Jim and his wife Julie travelled to New Zealand to spend a couple of weeks with their oldest son Josh, their daughter-in-law Milda, and their two grandsons: James and Matas. Julie hopes to travel back to New Zealand around the end of September, around the time that Josh and Milda are expecting the birth of their third child, a girl.

We were thankful that during their two Sundays away, we were blessed to sit under the preaching ministry of retired PCA pastors Les Percy and Paul Seiler, as well the Queensland director of Prison Fellowship, Tim Atwood.

Revs Percy and Seiler were called upon to help us a short time later. On Friday 21 June, a doctor recommended that Pastor Jim take a week’s medical leave, due to high blood pressure. Les and Paul were willing to fill the pulpit on the 23rd. Pastor Jim returned to the pulpit the following Sunday morning, and Rev Seiler graciously led our afternoon service for a second Sunday in a row. By the way, Jim’s health is improving.

In addition to the pastor and his wife, quite a number of other participants in our small church community have been or are currently away from home travelling overseas. Young Carswell spent some time with her family in Korea. Stephen Smith was sent by the military to Papua

New Guinea for a couple of weeks. Barbara Schmidt and her daughter Julie travelled to the UK to spend a month with family. Ernest Ong returned home to the Philippines for a month to spend time with family and work on some matters relating to his application to become a permanent resident of Australia. Lawrence Buckingham spent a couple of weeks teaching in China. Jedi Hitchens spent a week in Bali for a family wedding. And Stephen, a local man who recently began regularly attending our services, is taking four weeks to travel to the US and the UK.

The session has, with regret, granted the request of Ben and Claire Klazinga for disjunction certificates. Ben and Claire, with their three sons, have been involved in the church life of a CRCA in their local community, and Ben and Claire plan to become members.

We note with thankfulness that Micah Klazinga met with the Northern Presbytery to discuss his application for recognition as a student for the ministry within the PCEA, and that the presbytery unanimously agreed to forward his application to the Training of Ministry Committee. The committee will be discussing with him where to go from here. We pray for Micah and his wife Lauren, who have one son and are expecting their second in September, that they may receive the Lord’s guidance as they move forward together in His service.

We look forward to welcoming Pastor Tim Burden from the UK, who will be visiting Brisbane at the end of the July. Tim is the developer of MERFs Augustine

Biblical Training program, being implemented in North Africa and Indonesia. At 6.00pm on Friday 25th July, Tim will be attending a Fellowship Dinner with us at our church. Anyone is invited to attend. At around 7.30 pm, following the dinner, Tim will highlight the work which he is undertaking for MERF. Tim will also be preaching during our morning worship service on Sunday 27th July.

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## Hunter

[Report by Ian Miller]

The congregation continues in good spirits as we seek the Lord for the provision of a man of His choosing to be our next settled minister.

Rev Dr Dennis Muldoon recently conducted a helpful communion season beginning with a mid-week Preparatory Service online and Worship, the Lord's supper and Thanksgiving Service at Raymond Terrace,

A fellowship lunch was enjoyed between services. Attendance on the day was reduced due to the illness of some of our folk including elder Ian Miller,



hospitalised suffering pneumonia.

During July some guest preachers (retired Ministers) have been arranged to conduct Worship on the Hunter. Pulpit supply and other Bible teaching activities have been faithfully conducted by Mr Andrew Bajema.

Our persecuted brethren worldwide, various missions and our sister congregations are prominent in our prayers.

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## Hawkesbury Nepean

[Report by Elizabeth Muldoon]

What is more wonderful than a family wedding? We had such a wedding at our church a few weeks ago. A lovely young couple, who have recently come to the Lord, were married. They have been living together for some years and have 5 lovely little children.



But after becoming Christians, they both felt that this was the right thing for them to do as they follow Jesus. The bride was beautiful and the groom was handsome. Everyone in the church was moved and uplifted as they made their vows to love and be faithful to each other, with God's help, until the end of their lives (or until Jesus returns). We do pray for them, and for all marriages in our church, that God will bless them and keep them and help them to live faithful, loving lives together.

We have a couple of Iranian people who attend our church. This is a very worrying time for them as they hear about all the trouble in Iran. Thankfully the bombing has stopped but apparently they hear of retribution imprisonments and executions within the country. They both have family members there and so we do pray for them.

Continue to pray for Allan Stewart, Tom Reeve and our sister, Finau. Finau was diagnosed with ovarian cancer about one year ago and responded so well to treatment and surgery that she was diagnosed as in remission. Some new tumours have been found and so she is back doing chemotherapy again. We do pray for God's loving and gracious and comforting hand

to be upon each of these beloved members of our church and their families.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Manning**

[Report by Joyce Bennett]

What a time we have had in the Manning over the last 2 months. On the 1st May Val Cromarty slipped from this life into her eternal rest. Val suffered ill health for many years and was ready to meet her Lord. Please remember Jim and his family as they grieve the loss of Val.

I am sure you all will have heard of the floods along the east coast, the Manning was hit with the worst flooding on record, Taree, Wingham and surrounding areas were cut off from the outside world for a number of days, Wingham was cut off for nearly a week with a lot of damage being done, we even lost one of our bridges. Many farmers lost a lot of cattle and their paddocks are just starting to dry out now. Many people have lost all that they had.

We were able to get into church on the Sunday by doing a 45 minute detour. In Wingham we have lost our supermarket till the end of the year, I believe. This certainly has been a humbling experience and shows the power of God's creation, and we can rest in the knowledge that God is control of all things and He has a purpose in all that He does.

Paul Dyson is scheduled to have a major operation for his throat cancer which has returned, on 9th of July DV, Paul and Tracey would value your prayers at his very difficult time.

Once again we are very

thankful to the Lord for the provision of faithful men to fill our pulpit whether it is our elders or visiting preachers. We are a blest congregation.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Melbourne**

[Report by Heather Fiedler  
and George Ball]

As of last month, the congregations of Narre Warren and Carrum Downs have now been officially amalgamated into the 'Melbourne' congregation of the P.C.E.A. They will now function under one minister and one session. (The Carrum Downs services are live-streamed on YouTube each week.) We thank God for His guidance and providence these past months, and pray for His blessing to our congregation for its future growth and glory to Him in our communities.

Late May and early June, George and Rhoda Ball were away, serving God in N.S.W. The pulpits were filled by the Rev. Andrew Stewart from Geelong, and Rev. David Lachman from Hobart. God was honoured through the preaching of His word, and we as His people were fed and encouraged spiritually. We are grateful to them for giving their time to minister to us.

As a result of David's visit, the members expressed their strong agreement to invite Mr. Lachman to become their pastor. Consequently, the session issued a formal invitation to David, via his Presbytery, to come to Melbourne to provide residential supply, with a view to a future call and become a recognised minister within the

PCEA. Do pray with us that the Lord will lay the needs, the challenges, and the opportunities of Melbourne upon David's heart as he considers this invitation. Pray that he will be the right man, in the right place, at the right time. We pray too for his congregation in Hobart that the Lord will also shepherd them through this unsettling period. David has indicated that he does not plan to officially reply until his Presbytery next meets on 16th August.

George & Rhoda's return to Melbourne coincided with a belated birthday to Rhoda, (late May), and the 70th birthday of George on the 6th of June. A special morning tea, cake and best wishes were extended to George & Rhoda, with particular thanks to God for their ministry in Melbourne these past months.

At the Carrum Downs church, on the 22nd June, Matthew and Alison Mitchell were formally welcomed as communicant members of the church. They have been attending over several months with their children Jasper (17), Millabella (14), Sam (12), and Emily (age 6). The service was followed by a BBQ lunch. Again we see God's grace and blessing to His church.

We observed the day of prayer on 28th June - and plan that it may be repeated.

God has faithfully encouraged and strengthened His church in Melbourne during our time without our own minister. It has been encouraging to see some new faces appear recently, especially in Narre Warren. We pray for God's upholding to George & Rhoda for

their faithful service, and we prayerfully look forward to God's leading in the months ahead.

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### St Georges

[Report by Alex Steel]

An update on the work of the International Mission to Jewish People is to be given by Mark and Rahel Landrum at our mid-week prayer meeting on 4th June with a number of others joining online.

The restorations and repairs of our church building officially commenced on Tuesday 24th June. To facilitate immediate commencement of works a temporary site office was established by the builders in occupying the northern church foyer and partitioning off a portion of the church nave.

Works currently underway include the removal of the front fence and installation of stormwater drainage beneath the sandstone paving of the church forecourt/steps.

The congregation has adjusted

to internal changes and restricted entry to the church building.

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### Ulverstone

[Report by Zach Dotson]

The Ulverstone congregation has had a busy autumn and winter. We purchased a new manse in June and are in the process of making plans for the necessary renovations so that the Dotson family can move in by late August or early September. We also eagerly await the arrival of a new little girl in the Dotson household, who is also due in early September. In congregational life, Pastor Dotson continues to preach through the Gospel of Mark in the morning and the books of Samuel in the evenings. Pastor Dotson has also begun a weekly open-air outreach on the high street in Ulverstone, distributing tracts and Bibles to share the hope we have in Christ with many. He usually goes out on Thursdays from about 11 am to 1 pm and tries to speak with people during their lunch

breaks. We desire that the rest of the PCEA pray for our open-air outreach and pulpit ministry. Will you please pray that sinners will be brought to Christ?

Anna Bosveld, daughter of Colin and Kristine, was selected as a "Rising Star" by the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. She was able to perform alongside the Orchestra in June. We rejoice with her and couldn't be more proud. Most importantly, when interviewed on the radio, 15-year-old Anna gave God the Glory for her musical talent. Her parents are also incredibly proud, including her mum, who was her first piano teacher. The congregation is also extremely proud of this young lady's diligence, but most of all, her youthful piety and willingness to exalt God in all her accolades.

We are anticipating our 30th annual Winter Car Rally on August 2nd. We invite anyone from our mainland congregations to come down and participate, and join us for worship the next day.

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# FAMILY CAMP 2025

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September**  
**At Camp Elim, Forster, NSW**

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

**Registrations due 8 August.**  
**Contact the Youth and Fellowship Committee**  
**at: [yfc@pcea.org.au](mailto:yfc@pcea.org.au)**

## Statement to the Prime Minister

*The following was included in the Church and Nation Committee report and approved by Synod.*

We the members of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia (formed in 1846) meeting in Wauchope, NSW, from 6th-9th May 2025 send greetings to the Prime Minister, Mr Anthony Albanese, and his Government. We congratulate you on your election. You take up the reins of government at a time when the world is very unstable and volatile. You face many social problems at home, with the scourge of domestic violence, the rising rate of crime especially among teenagers, and the rising tensions between some religious and cultural groups. You face many economic challenges, with the rising cost of living, the rising cost of energy, the rising cost of housing, providing adequate

defence for our nation - to name but a few. When Solomon became king of ancient Israel he was overwhelmed by the responsibility and privilege of the task. He asked the LORD for an understanding mind to discern between good and evil (1 Kings 3:9). We encourage you to do the same. Please remember that you are in office ultimately by the LORD's permission. The Bible reminds us that, "there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God" (Romans 13:1). Please also remember that there is One in heaven who is King of kings and Lord of lords, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Scriptures emphasise that it is the duty and privilege of the individual, the church, and the nation to acknowledge His sovereignty, to trust and obey Him, to thank Him

for all His mercies, and to look to Him for all needed blessing (Psalm 2: 10-12). His name will endure when all others will be forgotten (Ps. 72: 17-19). We are also assured that He will return and 'will judge the world in righteousness' (Acts 17:31). We as members of the church are exhorted to "pray for kings and all those in authority that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all men to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim.2: 1-3). We therefore assure you that we will endeavour to pray for you at such a time as this and exhort you to seek that which is right and abhor that which is evil. For your information, we as a church have appointed 28/06/25 as a special day for prayer and fasting for the church and the nation.

## Youth and Fellowship Committee Resolutions from Synod 2025

1. Synod encourages the Youth and Fellowship committee to continue with the organisation of family and youth camps and encourages the church to pray for the practical planning and organisation of all activities. Pray that the events will bring deep spiritual growth under the ministry of the Word, with enrichment of Christian relationships, and a refreshing time of body and mind.

2. Synod instructs the... committee to continue to produce Essay Questions and Prescribed Youth Work and encourages the church to pray that this will continue to bring theological

discovery, personal strength, and spiritual direction in the lives of children and adolescents who participate in this activity.

3. The Synod prayerfully thanks God for the contributions of members and volunteers who have provided leadership during the camps. Synod also prays for the guest speakers who are preparing the talks for the Youth and Family camps. Pray for their messages to increase the joy of learning new things from Scripture.

4. Synod gives thanks and prays for those are involved in the work of teaching Sunday-school and youth classes.

5. Synod thanks Irene Steel for her dedication to the scripture search work and Nic and Amelia O'Dell for birthday card greeting and uphold them in prayer.

6. Synod thanks John and Judy Greensill for the preparation and continued use of their property, and the Northern Rivers congregation for their generosity for the youth camps over the last several years.

7. Synod continues to pray for the children and youth in the Church and the work of the committee in building relationships between congregations as members of Christ's body.



## From the Inter-church Relations Committee Report

*The following are selections from the Inter-church Relations Committee Report for synod 2025, compiled by the convenor, Rev Robin Tso. These selections focus on churches that did not send visitors to this year’s meeting. (For those, see last month’s issue.)*

1. The International Conference of Reformed Churches The 11th General Meeting of the International Conference of Reformed Churches will be held, the Lord willing, in Korea, in October 2026. We hope to bring forth a proposed deliverance for the next Synod regarding sending a delegate.

### 2. CHURCHES WITH WHOM WE HAVE FRATERNAL RELATIONS.

2:1 Free Church of Scotland (FCS). 1954 and 2005. The Convenor attended the General Assembly of the Free Church in Edinburgh. Greetings were extended, highlighting the current challenge of a shortage of ministers in our denomination and the difficulties faced in recent years. It was encouraging to have the Moderator acknowledge the highest interchurch relation we share. The formation of new congregations, primarily in Scottish cities, was noted positively. However, the Assembly also faced the painful task of disciplining one of their ministers. The visit provided an opportunity to renew personal contacts with several ministers.

2:2 Free Church of Scotland (Continuing) (FCC). 2018 The Convenor attended the General Assembly of the Free Church (Continuing) in Glasgow. It was heartwarming to be received as a corresponding delegate through the Federal Relations Act with our Synod. Greetings were extended, highlighting the current challenge of a shortage of ministers in our denomination and the difficulties faced in recent years. Gratitude was expressed for recent interactions, including pulpit supply by two of their ministers. They also shared the challenge of numerous vacancies on the Scottish mainland, experiencing a similar shortage of ministers and office bearers. The Assembly noted the formation of new congregations in the USA and a church plant in Canada, which may, in due time, become a separate denomination. The Convenor was especially delighted to meet ministers and office bearers from Europe, noting their congregations in France, Spain, and Portugal. The extensive efforts on Psalmody, particularly through technology, were commendable, with the 1650 Psalter App developed by one of their US ministers. The Convenor was invited to preach in several vacant congregations, strengthening our ties.

2:11 The Christian Reformed Churches of Australia (CRCA). 2014. The CRCA synod met in Brisbane 20-23 May 2024. Jim Klazinga brought greetings from the PCEA, in which he briefly

addressed some connections we have with them and areas where we might have even more cooperation:

- 1) Our two denominations are both members of the International Conference of Reformed Churches, currently the only ones in Australia.
- 2) In the past, we were involved with them in the Reformed Theological College, which relocated a few years ago from Geelong to Melbourne. Approaches have been made to re-establish RTC as one of our synod-approved colleges in training young men for ministry.
- 3) We could benefit from the safe-church training they provide for their congregations.
- 4) The synod delegates were encouraged to consider the possibility of pulpit exchanges with PCEA congregations.

### 3. CHURCHES WITH WHOM WE HAVE CONTACT.

3.2 Associated Presbyterian Churches of Scotland. 2018 The Convenor met with Rev. John Ferguson and Mr. William Mackenzie in Inverness, where they shared a time of encouragement and fellowship, discussing common challenges such as the shortage of ministers. The Associated Presbyterian Churches have congregations in Dundee, Inverness, Harris, Kinlochbervie, Oban, and Stornoway. We continue to look to the Lord for guidance and support for the future.”

## July Search Work

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

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Senior and Intermediate  
(Intermediate omit questions 6 and 8)

### Acts 11

1. When Peter had related the matter concerning Cornelius to the disciples at Jerusalem, what was their response?
2. Write out the verse that describes Barnabas' character.

### Acts 12

3. What was done by the church while Peter was in prison?
4. Why did the angel of the Lord smite [strike] Herod?

### Acts 13

5. What did Paul say to Elymas the sorcerer, and what then happened to him? (2 verses)
6. In his sermon at Antioch, Paul quotes from Psalms 2 and 16, and Isaiah 55, to prove Jesus' resurrection. Write out the three verses he quotes.
7. What did Paul tell the Jews in Antioch was preached to them through this man Jesus? (2 verses)

8. Why did Paul and Barnabas say they would turn to the Gentiles? Write out the verse found in Isaiah 49 that they quote. (2 verses)

### Junior

#### John 8:12-20

1. Who is the light of the world? Who shall not walk in darkness?

#### John 8:51-59

2. Who shall never see death?
3. Who rejoiced to see Jesus' day?
4. What did Jesus say when the Jews asked, "Have you seen Abraham?" What did the Jews do then? (2 verses)?

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.

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## July Prayer Points

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

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**Tuesday, 1st:** Pray for the ministry of the Brisbane congregation.

**Wednesday, 2nd:** Pray for the Brisbane office-bearers: for Rev Jim Klazinga; for elders Stewart Carswell and Wes Hanna; and for deacons Micah Klazinga, Keith Schmidt, and Matthew Schmidt.

**Thursday, 3rd:** 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 work of Mark and Rahel Landrum of the International Mission for Jewish People.

**Friday, 4th:** Give thanks that Micah Klazinga of the Brisbane congregation met with the Northern Presbytery to discuss his application for recognition as a student for the ministry within the PCEA, and that the presbytery unanimously agreed to forward his application to the Training of Ministry Committee.

**Saturday, 5th:** Rev David Lachman

of the Southern Presbyterian Church in Hobart has been invited to come and minister in the Melbourne PCEA. Please pray for him and his family, and that the Lord may guide him as to where He would have David serve.

**Sunday, 6th:** Give thanks that we can join together today in worshipping the God whose dominion makes certain the salvation of His people.

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

**Tuesday, 8th:** Pray for the

## July Prayer Points

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

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Ulverstone office-bearers: for Rev Zach Dotson, for elder Martin Pilgrim, and for deacon Robert Hingston.

**Wednesday, 9th:** Pray for Paul Dyson of the Manning congregation, who is scheduled today to undergo a major operation for his throat cancer.

**Thursday, 10th:** 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 Free Church of Scotland, and of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing). Pray for our relationship and contact with them.

**Friday, 11th:** Give thanks that Isaac Klazinga of the Brisbane congregation and Eloise Bosveld of the SPC in Hobart could become engaged to be married.

**Saturday, 12th:** Pray for elder Ian Miller of the Hunter congregation as he recovers after being hospitalized with pneumonia.

**Sunday, 13th:** The WSC in Q&A 31 teaches, "What is effectual calling? Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, he doth persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ, freely offered to us in the gospel." Pray that God by His Spirit may work through the Word preached

from our pulpits in the effectual calling of more and more of those set apart for conversion.

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

**Tuesday, 15th:** Pray for the Geelong elder, Donald Ramsay.

**Wednesday, 16th:** Pray for the continuing ministries of the Presbyterian Free Church of Central India. Give thanks for the contact our missions committee continues to have with them.

**Thursday, 17th:** Pray for the couple attending the Hawkesbury Nepean congregation who recently got married (see page 5).

**Friday, 18th:** Pray for Hawkesbury Nepean members Allan Stewart, Tom Reeve and Finau, as they each deal with cancer.

**Saturday, 19th:** Give thanks that Ulverstone could purchase a manse, and pray for the preparations being made for the Dotson family to move in by late August or early September.

**Sunday, 20th:** Pray that God may grant wisdom to our ministers as they proclaim God's Word to His people today.

**Monday, 21st:** Pray for the ministry of the one Melbourne congregation (newly formed, consisting of the former Narre Warren and Carrum Downs congregations).

**Tuesday, 22nd:** Pray for the Melbourne interim session: George Ball as interim moderator and assessor elders Zach Dotson and Donald Ramsay.

**Wednesday, 23rd:** Pray for the work of the Dumisani Theological Institute in South Africa.

**Thursday, 24th:** Give thanks that Matthew and Alison Mitchell could be formally welcomed as communicant members of the Melbourne congregation. They have been attending in Carrum Downs over several months with their children Jasper (17), Millabella (14), Sam (12), and Emily (6).

**Friday, 25th:** Continue to pray for those in the Manning region recovering from the recent devastating floods.

**Saturday, 26th:** Pray for the pregnant women in our congregations, for the unborn children in their wombs, and for their families.

**Sunday, 27th:** Pray that as we gather for worship today, God may enable us to hear Christ's word of peace.

**Monday, 28th:** Pray for the ministry of the Hawkesbury-Nepean congregation in West Sydney.

**Tuesday, 29th:** Pray for the Hawkesbury-Nepean office-bearers: for Rev Dennis Muldoon; for elder Tom Reeve; and for deacons Tevita Fihaki and Lopeti Latu.

**Wednesday, 30th:** Please continue to pray for Miriam from India during her time in Canada.

**Thursday, 31st:** Please pray for the ministry of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, and of the United Reformed Churches in North America. Pray for our relationship and contact with them.



