

"You are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me" Psalm 31:3

The Presbyterian Banner



May 2026

Table Of Contents

- 1 - *Cover* - Mr. Lachlan and Mrs. Katherine Bosveld on their wedding day in Geelong on the 4th of April.
- 2 - *This Issue.*
- 3-5 - *The Broader Body* - Reports on the Presbyterian Free Church of Central India, Dr Dickson in India, International Mission to Jewish People, Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF), and Australian Indigenous Ministries, by members of the Missions Committee.
- 6-8 - *Church News* - Reports from Brisbane, Geelong, Hawkesbury Nepean, Hunter, Manning, Melbourne, Northern Rivers, and Ulverstone.
- 8-9 - *The Broader Body* - “Death of Rev. Prof Donald M. MacDonald,” by Barbara Schmidt.
- 10 - *May Search Work.*
- 10-11 - *May Prayer Points.*
- 12 - *Back Cover* - More photos from the wedding of Lachlan and Katherine Bosveld.

From the Editor



Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:14 instructs believers to “comfort the fainthearted” (The NIV translates this: “encourage the timid.”)

The word comfort is used in John 11 to talk about how people came to comfort Martha and Mary after their brother Lazarus had died. This kind of comforting demonstrates tender compassion.

Genuine believers can be, or become, fainthearted. The word here can literally be translated as 'short-souled,' or 'small-minded.' Not the small-mindedness of a petty, proud person. We are dealing with someone who has a weaker Christian character, who may be lacking in courage, who is having difficulty coping with all the struggles of the Christian life, and as a result, has lost, or is losing, heart.

We should not look down on the fainthearted brothers, becoming impatient with them, telling them they need to "shape up or ship out." Rather, we have compassion on them, based on a genuine brotherly concern for them. We do everything we can to build them up and strengthen them.

This is not to say we let the timid brothers do anything they like, because we do not want to scare them off. Yet, at the same time, there needs to be compassion, understanding, and gentleness in dealing with the timid Christian.

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; 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

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

Mobile: 0466 213 763 Email: editor@pcea.org.au

Assistant Editor: Julie Klazinga.

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

Report on the Presbyterian Free Church of Central India

By John Greensill

Note: this contribution and the following are included in the report of the Missions Committee to Synod 2026.

Our former missionaries who served in Central India would rejoice that the PFCCI was formed as a result of their labours & God's grace to carry on the work of Gospel ministry. The church has conducted its second synod as an independent denomination & though working in the midst of many challenges, has been expanding to serve more areas. A

recent encouragement has been the grandson of the late Rev Prakash Kumar becoming a student for the ministry. Vipin is well into his theological studies at PTS Dehradun with excellent results.

The women of the PFCCI have groups involved in special ministry to very needy people in their communities & are able to help in many ways. This includes medical clinics.

The congregation in Chhapara continues to have a very big witness & input through the Christian Mission school, which

has a very good reputation, by providing an excellent education for students. Operating a private school is a financial challenge.

Recent reports of the Lakhnadon Christian Hospital, which is re-establishing after being closed, are more positive now. There are now good staff & three doctors running the facilities.

Even though the PFCCI is an independent denomination, I'm sure they appreciate our ongoing support & encouragement.

Report on Dr Dickson in India

By Dennis Muldoon

VETNET offers praise and grateful thanks to the Faithful One for His blessing on all our initiatives in 2025. We experienced His strength in all our weaknesses. We were able to complete 10 Caregivers Training and 14 free Vet camps in various remote villages across three North Indian states. More than 700 farmers brought 900 animals which were attended to with veterinary skills of experts and young graduates from Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. Around 250 animal owners and Animal Care Volunteers were offered basic skills to care for their animals in need. God opened the doors in these places to demonstrate His love in action. We worked with mission organizations both recognised and

yet to be recognised. It is endearing and humbling to see God using VETNET to bridge the gap between communities and the local cross-cultural worker. The local cross-cultural workers can continue their specific work with acceptance even amidst the prevailing threats and uncertainties throughout the country. We could encourage such cross-cultural workers and professionals, especially medical missionaries, with the written Word of God.

We had the First VETNET Regional Conference at Selesih Veterinary College in Aizawl, Mizoram. Nearly 90 Vet students, staff and Vet volunteers from the Northeastern states attended. It is an answer to persistent prayer. By God's grace we organised the 7th

National Conference of VETNET Josh'25 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. 80 participants attended. We had representatives from 6 states and 8 Vet. Schools. From the keynote address to the call for dedication, each session had its specific and special impact as they were focused on sustaining our personal relationship with the Saviour and sustaining professional practice for animal care and social reforms. As the first result of JOSH 25's impact, Veterinary students from 5 institutions (2 in Kerala, 2 in Tamil Nadu and 1 in Uttar Pradesh) organised Christmas Outreach programme in December. Around 700 students heard the gospel. We appreciate prayer for revival among veterinary students and more

The Broader Body

“and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.” Psalm 22:27

volunteering from the students and young graduates, practicing and retired Veterinarians in this cross-cultural service. We also seek prayer for the faithfulness and good health of the core group of VETNET.

Dickson’s wife, Griselda, could minister to the Pastors’ wives on leadership, leading singing in their churches and fellowships, women’s Fellowships on group Bible study,

Mothers’ Prayer Group, and a Church Christmas Programme. She assisted VETNET in leading the commitment session of Josh’25 and in the Tamil translation of ‘A Handbook on Animal Health’ authored by Dr. Peter Quesenberry. We praise the Lord for saving Dickson from an almost fatal Urosepsis on 22.9.25, immediately after Josh 25. We praise the Lord for Prashansa’s

successful completion of her PhD Written exam. We praise the Lord for the health of Grisalda and a satisfying report from the oncologist after 10 years of cancer treatment. We also praise the Lord for Prarthana, Phil and their two daughters and their passion for Third Culture Kids. We are grateful to PCEA for prayers, counsel and financial assistance.

Report on International Mission to Jewish People

By Zach Dotson

The International Mission to Jewish People continued its work this past year among Jewish communities in Melbourne and Sydney. In last year’s report, it was noted that missionaries on the ground were worried about increasing antisemitism. Sadly, with the events of Bondi in December 2025, the fears have become greater, and there is a need to pray for safety in our own nation

as well as for there to be no further bloodshed.

In support of the International Mission to Jewish People, we need to pray for their missionaries, Mark and Rahel Landrum, in Sydney, particularly that they would be able to spread the Gospel among a Jewish community that is feeling increasingly under attack. There is also missionary, Daniel Zeunert, in Melbourne who continues to

conduct outreach among the Jewish Community there.

Difficulty in spreading the Gospel among the Jewish people is increasing due to antisemitism. The missionaries are the ones who feel this, and they also feel the burden of sharing the Messiah with their people. So may we, as the PCEA, continue to pray and work with them to see many Jews come to Christ.

Report on Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF)

By Zach Dotson

The Work of the Middle East Reformed Fellowship continued in the year 2025, and God was very gracious. MERF, to bring the good news of Christ to the Muslim world, has 4 key areas of effort: 1. Evangelistic Outreach, 2. Church Extension, 3. Biblical Training, 4. Diaconal Aid. All of these areas are crafted and designed to help the church and believers in the Middle East Prosper.

Much of the Evangelistic Outreach is done through mass media, whether that be Arabic and Farsi radio broadcasts or increasingly through the internet. The means of mass media provide a way for the message of Jesus to penetrate even closed countries. Among the nations where the Mass Media work is proving encouraging, Iran is one. Many Iranians are finding ways to access

MERFs’ teaching, and it is benefiting their souls.

In the field of church extension, MERF partners with existing churches to equip church planters/pastors for the work. This work occurs in North Africa through an online team that conducts one-on-one ministry and discipleship. This is vital for churches as they develop and expand. When it comes to Church extension, MERF provides

the framework and tools to help local churches succeed in outreach and church planting.

The area of Biblical training is one in which MERF excels. Training courses are offered online and at several centres throughout the Middle East and the Islamic Realm. Among these centres is Loki in Kenya, where Dr Muldoon taught in August and early September. Other training programs are hosted at the MERF

headquarters in Cypress and in Indonesia. In Indonesia, vital work is being done to train pastors and Sunday School teachers, and so far, it seems to be helping churches further their ministry in their local communities.

Diaconal Aid is the last area of concentration for MERF, but it involves aiding local churches and believers to improve their lives for the sake of the Gospel. Dr Muldoon was involved in this work

by planting crops and surveying the gardens of the training centre at Loki. Further, after significant flooding on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, MERF’s diaconal aid stepped up to assist.

The work of MERF is vital for the Gospel to reach the Muslim world, and we in the PCEA are proud to partner with them in their endeavours.

Report on Australian Indigenous Ministries

By Mark Hamilton

Throughout 2025, Australian Indigenous Ministries (AIM) continued its work of supporting Aboriginal churches and communities across Australia, combining gospel ministry with practical care while navigating significant leadership and resourcing challenges.

Church Support and Community Engagement

AIM churches remained active in worship, teaching, and outreach despite ongoing infrastructure issues. Several church buildings and mission houses required urgent maintenance due to termite damage, structural deterioration, asbestos concerns, and security issues. Repairs in Katherine were supported by volunteer Chris Solan, whose work also helped engage local community members. In Woorabinda, practical assistance from partnering churches strengthened relationships and opened pathways for further youth outreach.

Leadership and Workforce Developments

The year saw notable leadership transitions. Yane Damanik concluded her role as AIM Mission Coordinator after many years of service, having played a key role in shaping AIM’s vision with a strong focus on biblical discipleship and Indigenous leadership development. Later in the year, AIM Chairman Peter Dixon stepped back due to health concerns, increasing responsibilities for remaining Council members.

AIM welcomed Dr Jude Long to the Council, bringing extensive experience in Indigenous education and theological training. Retired workers, including Raymond and Thelma Dixon and Cliff Letcher, explored renewed opportunities for teaching and support in local churches.

Bible Ministry and Teaching

A significant milestone was the completion of the Barkly Version of Genesis. Richard and Sue Da-

vies, with Debbie Simpson recording the text, helped make Scripture more accessible through audio and written formats, supporting believers engaging with God’s Word in their second language.

Care, Challenges, and Ongoing Needs

Health challenges affected several AIM leaders, including Max Conlon, Henry Louie, and Fay Chambers, highlighting the need for prayer and support. AIM also faced declining workforce numbers alongside growing ministry demands and rising maintenance costs.

Looking Ahead

AIM remains committed to supporting Aboriginal churches through prayer, partnerships, and leadership development. The need for workers, financial support, and sustained prayer continues as AIM seeks to faithfully serve Indigenous communities with the gospel.

* * * * *

Brisbane

[Report by Jim Klazinga]

On Friday, 17 April, some members of the congregation, along with a number of guests, joined together for a congregational meal. This was followed by a presentation given by Dr Tas Walker of Creation Ministries International, entitled, “Creation: A Key to the Gospel.” The talk was somewhat basic, obviously catering to people who may not be all that familiar with some of the issues surrounding the creation vs. evolution debate. Still, Dr Walker was an engaging speaker, and some who wished to dig a bit deeper were able to have some informative discussions with



him afterward. Plus, CMI volunteers brought plenty of material available for purchase, for anyone who wished to study the issues further. All in all, it was a lovely evening of fellowship and praising God for His amazing creating power.

The congregation rejoiced in being able to witness the sacrament of baptism being administered to Elowyn Anlan Yu, infant daughter of Hainian and Naomi. The service started late, due to traffic issues resulting from roads being closed off for a cycling event. Still, every one who was hoping to attend managed to make it, including Elowyn’s great-grandmother from China, who is currently staying with the Yu family.

A meeting was held on 23 April to discuss the possibility of hosting regular sausages sizzles at the church, for the purpose of increasing our visibility and developing relationships with people in the community. Those attending were enthusiastic to participate, and it is hoped we will be able to have them once every other month, beginning when we are able to get some details sorted out.

* * * * *

Geelong

[Report by John Forbes]

Katherine Forbes was married to Lachlan Bosveld in Geelong on 4 April 2026 and has now moved to Launceston, Tasmania,

where they have set up home and will be attending the Launceston congregation of the Southern Presbyterian Church.

It was a delight to welcome as communicant members Micah and Lauren Klazinga, and Nick and Natalie Blismas. Both families have been worshipping with us over the past few months.

Session has agreed to begin a 4pm afternoon service in addition to our current 10am service. It is expected that this will commence later in May.

Upgrades to the church and manse continue to inch forward with progress feeling slow at present as we await quotations for some of the more significant work.

* * * * *

Hawkesbury Nepean

[Report by Elizabeth Muldoon]

This month we celebrated ANZAC Day in Australia. The first ANZAC Day was celebrated in 1916 - people wanted to remember and honour the thousands of young men who had suffered and died in the terrible conflict that took place in Gallipoli in April 1915 - and in all wars. In 1915, in Mt Druitt, in that time of fear and uncertainty and sorrow, the community came together and asked for a church to be built. Mt Druitt was quite isolated from larger areas of Sydney and the people wanted somewhere closer to come and pray and worship God. The Anglican Diocese agreed with this desire, and our little church was first opened in 1916. So we have quite a connection with memories of World War 1. And now 110 years later, we praise the

Lord that people still come here to meet together and worship our great God.

We also celebrated communion on the first Sunday of this month, a time to remember another, far greater sacrifice, the sacrifice of Jesus, who laid down his life for us, to forgive our sins and make us his children forever. And each time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

* * * * *

Hunter

[Report by Ian Miller]

A Creation Ministries International presentation on May 2 by Dr Mark Harwood is to be the focus of our first men's breakfast fellowship meeting this year. Lord willing some men from other local congregations and friends will be able to join us at the event.

Our mid-week morning Bible study/prayer meetings continue to be well attended both in person and via online link. The Matthais Press Study booklet on 1 Peter has facilitated a careful and in depth study of significant Biblical themes such as the reality of suffering by Christians in its varied forms whilst stressing the need to live lives which please God. In the final assessment, faithful obedience is ultimately more important than physical comfort or self gratification. Such a philosophy is of course diametrically opposed to the thinking of our present world. Inevitably this will mean believers will suffer for righteousness' sake, and to thankfully recognise that God always uses suffering in the believer's life for their good and

His glory. Christ's suffering is highlighted as the supreme example for us.

We remember in prayer our folk who have required emergency treatment for acute physical illness: Mrs Kinder and Mr Barnes, and Mr Allen who is recovering from a successful hip replacement operation.

Other matters for prayer include our need of the persecuted Church worldwide, various missions, our sister congregations, Synod, and our need of a settled minister.

* * * * *

Manning

[Report by Joyce Bennett]

Another month has gone by & we thank the Lord for his wonderful blessings he has bestowed on us. Over the last 2 years we have never had a Lord's Day where we didn't have anyone in our pulpit to proclaim God's Word faithfully to us. We are very thankful to those who travel distances to fill our pulpit & for our elders.

At the time of writing, Lord willing, we will be hosting a Missionary Meeting with Matthew Hillier from CMAID on the 30th April updating us on the work being done in Moldova & Armenia. Also on the 2nd May another Missionary Meeting with Peter Edwards will bring us information about the ministry of Voice of the Martyrs.

We would ask that you uphold Pamela Leggott in your prayers as she has developed blood clots in her lungs & is receiving treatment in Sydney.

* * * * *

Melbourne

[Report by David Lachman]

The Rev David Kumnick went to be with the Lord on Thursday the 16th of April, a few days after celebrating his 79th birthday surrounded by his family. We thank the Lord for the clear testimony he gave to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to the very end. The Lord's sustaining grace was evident to everyone around him in his suffering, especially in his last months. We thank the Lord for how he used David's godly patience in suffering to spread the gospel, as all those around him could see the Lord's mercy shining through in all the trials he faced. His funeral focussed on the hope we have in Jesus Christ our Good Shepherd who faithfully pursues us with goodness and mercy all our life and gives us life forever, because he died to save us from our sin and it's consequence eternal death. Please pray that the Holy Spirit would use the gospel which was preached, as well as the clear testimony his family gave to his sincere faith and godly character, to bear good spiritual fruit, especially as there were many at the funeral who don't know the Lord Jesus Christ. Continue to pray for his family as they weep with hope, praying for the Lord to give them strong gospel comfort in their time of loss.

We started evening worship in Narre Warren on 19 April, while continuing to hold morning worship in both locations. Pray for the Lord's sustaining grace for those who are attending all three

times of worship. Pray that God the Father, who is seeking those who will worship in spirit and truth (John 4:23), will draw sinners to come hear and live in the Lord Jesus; and that we would stir his saints to delight in worshipping him. We also would appreciate ongoing prayer for the elderly in the congregation, several of whom are finding it increasingly difficult to come as their spirits remain willing, but their bodies are weak and frail. Like with so many congregations, we need much prayer for grace to walk with elderly saints who are coming closer to the day they will go be with the Lord.

* * * * *

Northern Rivers

[Report by Beth Sonter]

Rain has been very welcome in the area over the past couple of

weeks. Things were very dry previously so we really appreciate the respite. Unfortunately, this is delaying the replacement of the roof tiles on our Bethesda units. Work has been ongoing with verandas already being replaced and now the tile replacement awaiting finer weather.

Our congregation’s annual meeting was held at the end of April. Good discussion took place regarding the church finances and ongoing needs.

The congregation celebrated the Lord’s Supper at the end of March. This is always a special time as it encourages reflection followed by renewal and rejoicing. As is our practice we enjoyed lunch after the service.

Wednesday morning Bible studies continue and are always a source of encouragement to those attending. Our Wednesday

evening Westminster Confession of Faith have concluded (at last). It has taken approximately 18 months to work our way through this. Discussion is ongoing regarding the next evening study and format.

* * * * *

Ulverstone

[Report by Zach Dotson]

This month at Ulverstone PCEA, we have been enjoying increased fellowship as we have adopted a fuel shortage schedule. This has the congregation enjoying lunch together every week, which has been lovely for fellowship. We are also happy that the Keast family has transferred their membership to us as they have moved here from Canberra. We ask for prayer for growth in grace and in knowledge.

The Broader Body

“and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.” Psalm 22:27

Death of Rev. Prof Donald M. MacDonald

By Barbara Schmidt

It was really saddening to learn of the passing of Rev. Prof. Dr. Donald M. MacDonald on Sunday 29th March after many years of disability and poor health.

The second son of a shepherd, Donald was born at Borrobol, in the Strath of Kildonan, in the north of Scotland county of Sutherland, in January 1944. After completing his schooling in Golspie High School, where he was Dux, Donald went to Edinburgh University where he studied medicine and

then did further studies to qualify as a surgeon, which equipped him for the work he was to take up in India.

While he was a student in Edinburgh, Donald learnt of the need for equipment for the hospital in Lakhnadon, India and he organized H.E.L.P. (Hospital Equipment for Lakhnadon Project). A few years later Donald was able to use some of this equipment himself in providing health care in the same hospital, as he and his wife, Joan,

and their first child, Colin, went to India in 1973.

The small rural Christian Hospital where Donald worked, had been started by Free Church of Scotland missionaries in 1936 and grew to having 24 beds in 1966. The hospital provided vital medical care to people for miles around and with the coming of a surgeon, the services that the hospital could offer greatly increased.

With a very skimpy pathology service, basic X rays, no anaesthe-

The Broader Body

“and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.” Psalm 22:27



is now the Free Church of Central India and he played a very significant part in the legal side of establishing the Indian church, independent from Scotland.

Being a very gifted linguist, Donald frequently preached in Hindi and he also assisted in preparing the metrical Psalms in Hindi and composing tunes for them.

In June 1988, Donald and Joan and their family of 4, Colin, Christine, Sarah and Susan, returned home to Scotland for the children's education and because of Donald's health problem. He developed early symptoms of Multiple Sclerosis as a result of the anti rabies vaccine he needed after contact with a patient who died of rabies. There Donald trained for the ministry at the Free Church of Scotland College and then became the minister of Bishopriggs Free Church.

In 1997 he was appointed Professor of Apologetics and Practical Theology at the Free Church of Scotland College, where he helped shape and influence a generation of students preparing for the ministry. His calm dignity is something many will remember, along with his gracious spirit and his unwavering commitment to Christ and His Church.

Throughout his time back in Scotland, Don-

ald battled with Multiple Sclerosis which made him increasingly disabled, but he uncomplainingly accepted God's providence in his weakness. He never seemed to stop working and, as well as preaching and leading Bible studies, he was an advocate for people with a disability and a composer of Psalm tunes, such as Marrel, Kildonan, Borrobol and Peace, in *Sing Psalms*.

Over the last few years, Donald was very dependent on the care of his wife, Joan, and a team of care providers.

I count it an enormous privilege to have worked with Donald for most of the time he served in India, and to have known him as a friend. I was very glad to be able to visit him and Joan in Edinburgh last year. Donald's labours on earth are now done and his pain and suffering is over. No doubt as he entered into glory, he would have been greeted with, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord'.

tist and a small staff of competent national and expat nurses, Donald performed major and minor surgeries, saving lives and relieving suffering for many patients.

He also learnt to do eye surgery and operated in eye camps, where hundreds of poor, blind or nearly blind people recovered their sight.

As the work of the hospital increased, better facilities were needed to accommodate the influx of patients and to provide a proper operating theatre. For many years surgeries and deliveries were done in the same small room, which sometimes caused problems when a patient was admitted in labour while an operation was in progress. Donald planned and oversaw the building of a new outpatient department, operating theatre, sterilising room and offices, which were opened in 1982.

Donald was an elder in the Lakhnadon congregation of what



May Search Work

“With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!” Psalm 119:10

Senior and Intermediate
(Intermediate omit questions 7 and 8)

2 Thessalonians 1

1. For what reason did the apostle say he was bound to thank God always for the Thessalonians? (2 verses)
2. When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, what will he do to his enemies? (2 verses only)

2 Thessalonians 2

3. What must happen first before the day of the Lord [Christ] come? (2 verses)
4. To what end has God from the beginning chosen his people to salvation? (2 verses)
5. From whom have we received everlasting consolation and good hope?

2 Thessalonians 3

6. Why did the apostle ask the Thessalonians to pray for him and the other apostles? (2 verses)
7. How did the apostles behave themselves when they were among the Thessalonians? (2 verses)

8. What command was given to those busybodies who would not work?

Junior

Daniel 5

1. At Belshazzar's feast, what came forth [appeared] and wrote on the wall?
2. Could the king's wise men read the writing?
3. What was Daniel's interpretation of the three words written on the wall? (3 verses)
4. What happened to Belshazzar that night, and who took the kingdom? (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.

May Prayer Points

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers.” 1 Thessalonians 1:2

Friday, 1st: Continue to pray for himself and all other creatures to for their office-bearers: for Rev those family and friends of Rev recover him out of his lost Dennis Muldoon; for elders Tom David Kumnick who mourn his condition, not only assenteth to the Hallett and Tom Reeve; and for death. truth of the promise of the gospel, deacons Tevita Fihaki and Lopeti

Saturday, 2nd: Pray for Jim Klazinga and his righteousness, therein held as he prepares to lead the start of forth, for pardon of sin, and for the next week's synod meeting as the accepting and accounting of his current moderator, and for Robin Tso, the moderator-elect, as he person righteous in the sight of God prepares to lead the bulk of the meeting. Spirit may work through the preaching of the Word from our

Sunday, 3rd: WLC Q&A 72 states: justifying faith in the hearts of those attending our worship services. “What is justifying faith? Justifying faith is a saving grace, wrought in the heart of a sinner by the Spirit and word of God, whereby he, being convinced of his sin and misery, and of the disability in

Monday, 4th: Pray for the ministry of the Hawkesbury-Nepean congregation in West Sydney, and

Latu.

Tuesday, 5th: Pray for synod as it commences meeting at 4.30 this afternoon.

Wednesday, 6th: Pray for the representatives of other denominations offering greetings throughout the course of the synod meeting.

Thursday, 7th: Pray for the Missions evening being held at synod tonight, with Dennis Muldoon speaking on DTI and Rev.

May Prayer Points

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers.” 1 Thessalonians 1:2

Shanmugan Partheepan of the Reformed Protestant Mission in Sri Lanka making a presentation.

Friday, 8th: Pray for synod as it concludes its business today.

Saturday, 9th: Pray for Rev. Shanmugan Partheepan as he visits our congregations during the next few weeks.

Sunday, 10th: Pray that God by His Spirit may enable us to join in worship today with a reverential posture, with a sense that God is our sovereign King.

Monday, 11th: Pray for the ministry of the St Georges congregation in Sydney.

Tuesday, 12th: Pray for the St Georges office-bearers: for Rev Robin Tso; for elders Donald McIntosh, and Alex Steel; and for deacons Chris Oakley, Ken Shaw, and Allan Steel.

Wednesday, 13th: 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 the Dumisani Theological Institute in South Africa.

Thursday, 14th: Give thanks that Lachlan and Katherine Bosveld could get married last month.

Friday, 15th: Pray for Pamela Leggott of the Manning congregation, as she has developed blood clots in her lungs and is receiving treatment in Sydney.

Saturday, 16th: Pray for the Hunter

members who have required emergency treatment for acute physical illness: Mrs Kinder and Mr Barnes; and for Mr Allen, who is recovering from a successful hip replacement operation.

Sunday, 17th: Pray that the Spirit working through the Word preached from our pulpits today may enable those attending to praise God for his love, and so also grow in their love for God.

Monday, 18th: Pray for the ongoing ministry of the Hunter congregation in Cardiff and Raymond Terrace.

Tuesday, 19th: Pray for the Hunter office-bearers: for elder Ian Miller; and for deacons Richard Alley, David Barnes, John Fluit, Ken George & Ian King.

Wednesday, 20th: Pray for Young Lee and his work with Indigenous children in Taree.

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 Presbyterian Free Church of Central India. Pray for our relationship and contact with them.

Friday, 22nd: Give thanks for the Keast family that have become members of the Ulverstone congregation.

Saturday, 23rd: Pray for the family and friends who continue to mourn the death of Rev. Prof Donald M.

MacDonald (see pages 8-9).

Sunday, 24th: Give thanks that we can gather for worship today without fear of what man can do to us, because we worship the Almighty God.

Monday, 25th: Pray for the continuing ministry of the Manning congregation in Taree.

Tuesday, 26th: Pray for the Manning office-bearers: for elders Clive Alley, Young Lee, Trevor Leggott, Neil Robinson, and Peter Smith; and for deacons Mark Hamilton, Marshall Reid, Alistair Weber, and David Wilson.

Wednesday, 27th: Pray for the work of Dr Dickson in Delhi, India.

Thursday, 28th: Pray for the Bible Studies being held in our congregations.

Friday, 29th: Give thanks that the Geelong congregation could welcome as communicant members Micah and Lauren Klazinga, and Nick and Natalie Blismas.

Saturday, 30th: Pray for Rev. Shanmugan Partheepan as he prepares to head back to Sri Lanka next Monday.

Sunday, 31st: 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.

