

"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



September 2026

This Issue

“But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Galatians 6:14

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The Revelation of the Glory of God, Part 2



The following is an abridged and edited version of the second part of the retiring moderator's sermon, given at synod on 5 May. The text is Deuteronomy 4:35.

The Holy, glorious God has basically lowered himself, graciously condescending so that we can know Him.

Remarkable, when you think about it. We couldn't go up to him to know him at his level, so He came down to us at our level.

And how has He come to us? Well, there's lots that we can say about this, but at this point, we're going to highlight how He has made himself known in Jesus Christ, whom we proclaim. You want to know God? You want to know who God is, what He has shown us about Himself? You want to revel in his glory? You look to Christ. We cannot truly know God apart from His revelation of Himself in Christ.

Mind you, it is only because God reveals Himself to us in His Word, in the Bible, that is how we are even able to know how He reveals Himself in the living Word, Jesus Christ.

And so, because, and only because, God has seen fit to show us something about who He is, in Jesus Christ and in the witness to Jesus Christ in the Scriptures, thus can we truly know and live in fellowship with the glorious God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You know, an interesting point about the revelation of the glory of God in the Bible: the Bible is not a book that goes about trying to prove that God exists. Its main theme is not: let me prove to you

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that I exist. It's not written from the perspective of human beings offering up their ideas as to why they are certain that God is real. Rather, it's more from God's perspective. It's about Him showing Himself, his glory, to us. The Bible records how God has acted in history, and what this tells us about who He is.

What is it that our text from Deuteronomy 4, verse 35, says? "To you it was shown, that you might know that the Lord Himself *is* God; *there is* none other besides Him."

By the way, just a bit of background to this verse: you remember of course how in Deuteronomy, the people of Israel are about to enter into the land of Canaan. They had been wandering in the desert for 40 years, and their wandering is about to come to an end. And their leader, Moses, he is reminding them of who God is and what He requires of them. He reminds them of the amazing things that God has done in delivering them out of slavery in Egypt, in speaking to them as He did at Mount Sinai.

And Moses says to the people: you know why all this happened? You were shown these things so that you might know that the Lord is God. You were shown, you had these things revealed to you, God showed you all that he has done, and he spoke to you, not to prove to you that he exists. No, that's a given. But you were shown these things in order that you might know who God is, how glorious He is.

You know, fellow ministers, as preachers, we're not here first of all to answer the question: Does God exist? Our first job is not to prove

that God exists.

There's a place for that, of course. I'm not trying to downplay the importance of answering that question. Each one of us, ministers and other members, should be able to argue that God exists, to one degree or another.

But as we assemble together as his people, the reality of his existence is a given. The question for us is: who is this God? Who is this God that we worship? Who has He revealed Himself to be? How has He revealed His glory?

This is such an important topic. It's so important for us to want to get to know God better.

We do this, not as a young lady trying to get to know her fiancé better. We do this, not as a homeowner trying to get to know his neighbor better. We do this, not as a lawyer trying to get to know the law better. But we do this as a humble people seeking to know their Lord and Master better. We do this as a sinful, but redeemed people longing to know their electing heavenly Father better, their Savior better. We do this so that we might better give all praise and honor and glory to Him.

Brothers, let's spend some more time now reflecting a bit further on who it is that we give all praise and honor and glory to.

As the Westminster Confession puts it, there is only one, living, true God. And as our text, Deuteronomy 4:35 puts it: "the Lord Himself *is* God; *there is* none other besides Him."

What a profound, rich statement.

Consider for instance the whole notion that God, the Lord Himself, He... is. God is. He exists. He has defined himself as the great "I

am." He is pure and perfect existence. He is ultimately real. There is nothing that is as real as He is. He is the foundation of reality. He is the source of all that is real. Everything that is real can only be real because He is.

Of course, this is not to say that everything that exists is a part of God. That's paganism. That would be getting the Creator and the creature all mixed up.

But nevertheless, while clearly distinguishing the Creator and the created, we do still need to recognize that creation does find its foundation for existence in His being.

Look at it this way: His being is primary, He is the one whose existence is absolutely necessary. In order for anything else to exist, He has to exist. Our existing, it's contingent, it's dependent on His existing.

My, my, aren't we getting philosophical here. Necessary existence, contingent existence. And yet, it's so important that we have some sort of understanding of what we're talking about here.

Look at it this way: think about how ironic it is that so many people see fit to question the existence of God. Really, that is the height of audacity, to question the existence of Him on whom our existence is completely dependent. Without His existence, our existence is impossible.

You know, you could say that it would be far more appropriate to question whether in fact we are real. Now you might think that's silly. Of course we are real. But the thing is, as real as we are, God is even more real.

Yeah, right, how can something be more real? He is either real or

He is not. He either exists or He doesn't. Sure, He can be more holy than we are, more wise, more powerful, but more real?

Yet I repeat again, God is more real than we can ever be. Remember: our being real is dependent on Him. Our being real is not something we have in and of ourselves, but it is something we have only because of God.

He created us. He determined the course of our life. He keeps us existing. And if he were to remove his providential care over us for even one instant, then poof, we would cease to exist.

That's how real you are. That is how tenuous your existence is. But God is not like this. Unlike us, His existence is not dependent on something outside of Himself. There is not some greater being on whom He depends for His existence. His existing, His being real, is completely based upon Himself.

God reveals Himself as the "I am". That's not just a simple statement of fact. It is a deep and awesome truth.

Having considered this, let's move on now to think about what it means that God is one only. This is perhaps one of the most stressed truths God reveals about Himself in the Bible. There is but one God, no other. Reading our text again - "To you it was shown, that you might know that the Lord Himself *is* God; *there is* none other besides Him." The Lord is the only God. All other gods by definition are false, without real being.

We read in Deuteronomy 6:4 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one."

Think about it, really, how could it be any other way? How could

there possibly be more than one "I am"? He who is perfect existence and the source of all reality, how can there be more than one of Him? There cannot be more than one ultimate source of all being. If there were more than one all-powerful God, none of them would in fact have all the power. It is simply impossible. There is no one like Him. There cannot be anyone like him.

And yet, even though it is so clear that there cannot possibly be more than one God, nevertheless, we need to be reminded over and over again of this truth, and remind our congregations regularly that the Lord is one. Because of course, it is the natural inclination of sinful man to try and set up other gods, which are, as gods, ultimately no more than figments of our imagination.

Perhaps this is because the whole idea of God is simply too big for us. Perhaps our minds simply can't handle the notion of an absolutely perfect being. The thought is too high above us. So we want a God who is closer to our level.

And hey, it's probably easier to control a god on our own level than it is to control the ultimate source of all existence, right? So we worship the creature rather than the creator. As we read in Romans 1:22,23,25 - "Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.... who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen."

And remember this as well, elevating ourselves, thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought, we are exchanging the truth of God for the lie, worshiping and serving the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Never forget, God will not tolerate His glory being given to another, to you or anyone or anything else. He is a jealous God. He is jealous to receive the praise and glory which is due Him.

When we are jealous for ourselves, it is so often the result of pride. Pride is when you think you are better than you are. But God cannot be guilty of pride, because by definition there is nothing or noone better than He is. Thus, his jealousy is perfectly righteous. Thus, he is perfectly just to demand that the glory and worship and praise that belongs only to Him must not be given to another. Thus, it is not hard to see why the Bible would so often emphasize that the Lord is one, the only God.

Brothers, this one God, the God who is, the only God who is, He is not just an abstract being out there. He is your God. And how great your God is. That is what I hope your response will be when you read the Bible, when you preach and reflect on the glorious gospel of Christ: "How great you are, God." And then to think that this infinitely great God has seen fit to love us, to reveal Himself to us, to draw us to Himself, well, that makes proclaiming His glory even better, doesn't it? Thanks be to this only living God. May He be praised and shown to be glorious in what we do here at synod. Amen.

Report to Synod 2026 of the Youth and Fellowship Committee

Convenor: Stewart Carswell

Youth Camp: The youth camp ran over the Easter long weekend at Maclean. The camp is for 14- to 25-year-olds with about 20 campers from Tasmania, Brisbane, Northern Rivers, and Hastings in attendance. Jim Klazinga spoke on the Trinity, which was very well received by everyone there.

We are thankful for the willingness of John and Judy Greensill for the use of their property, and thank the cooks and helpers, including Keith and Barbara Schmidt and Julie Schmidt (Brisbane), and the Northern Rivers congregation.

The committee will need to consider alternative venues in the coming years and asks Synod to prayer for the committee.

Family Camp: The Family Camp in September was held at Camp Elim, Forster approximately 2 hours north of Newcastle. Camp Elim offers differing accommodation including camping, caravans and cabins. The committee subsidise and cap the cost of the camp for individuals and families, as we feel the spiritual

growth and relation-ships between congregations is very much blessed by camp attendance.

The 2025 camp was on the theme of God’s Gift of Family with Robin Tso leading the studies. There were up to 83 attendees, including day visitors, which was very encouraging.

Essay: The 2025 essay theme was “The miracles of Christ” and the question: The feeding of the 5,000 is the only miracle of our Lord Jesus found in all four gospels. Describe what happened and explain what this teaches us about our Lord Jesus and his kingdom?

There were 2 senior and 3 intermediate submissions. Book vouchers were awarded to all participants; \$30 for seniors, \$25 for intermediate, and \$20 juniors.

Birthday Card Greetings: Nic and Amelia O’Dell continue sending birthday card greetings to the children of the church. We encourage congregations to update the list of children under 12 years to yfc@pcea.org.au

Search Work: Mrs Irene Steel

continues the Search Work, which the committee is very thankful for. She does it diligently and without fanfare.

Deliverances:

1. Synod encourages the committee to proceed with the organisation of the family and youth camps in 2026 and pray that these will result in spiritual growth and building godly relationships.
2. Synod pray for those involved in teaching Sunday-school and youth classes and for the children and youth in the Church.
3. Synod thank Irene Steel and Nic and Amelia O’Dell for the scripture search work and birthday card greeting and uphold them in prayer.
4. Synod thank John and Judy Greensill for the use of their property for the youth camp, and the Northern Rivers congregation for their generosity, and for wisdom as the committee consider future options.

Portions of the Report to Synod 2026 of the Information Technology Committee

Convenor: David Kerridge

Website: The PCEA website has remained unchanged in basic format for 2025. It requires contributions from congregations to be truly representative of the denomination. We have seen some great work done on congregational websites during the year.

Intranet: The PCEA intranet (accessed at <https://pceanorthern.sharepoint.com/>) is the common

repository for documents (particularly Minutes and Reports, Decision Books etc) and general information for the work of our Synod and various Committees.

Microsoft 365 Suite: Microsoft’s office products through the Microsoft 365 suite are available to PCEA office-bearers via licencing arrangements with Connecting Up. However, Microsoft have

introduced a cost to retain the Microsoft Business Premium packages as of this month. 10 licences were being utilised but we have been able to obtain the Business Basic option at no cost and no loss of essential functionality. Existing users have already been migrated to the new option.

Church News

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2



* * * * *

Brisbane

[Report by Jim Klazinga]

Please continue to pray for our



older members, a number of whom are dealing with ongoing health concerns. For instance, we think of Jean Busch up in Rockhampton, who continues to deal with issues that caused her to be hospitalized last July. And we think of Beth Anderson, who suffers from ongoing dizziness and resides at the Beaumont Care home in Kippa Ring.

Pray also for Joe and Gail Henderson. Both have been

dealing with a variety of health problems this year, including Gail’s heart attack suffered in May. They hope to be able to spend some time in Victoria later this year, taking care of matters on their farm property down there.

We have a number of members in Korea. Peter and Young Carswell are currently on an extended stay there. Stephen Smith remains there until later this year as part of his military service.

His wife and daughter, Jessie and Lilah, recently visited him, travelling along with Aimee Carswell (Jessie’s cousin and Peter and Young’s daughter.)

Jim and Julie Klazinga will also be travelling to Korea, spending three weeks there next month. Following that, they plan to travel to Canada, where they hope to stay until the middle of January. Both of





their aged fathers are dealing with serious health issues. In addition to spending time with family, Jim will be providing pulpit supply for a URCNA congregation.

They hope to return to Australia in time to welcome the arrival, Lord willing, of their thirteenth grandchild, Caleb and Robyn Klazinga's first child.

* * * * *

Hastings

[Report by Jim Klazinga]

The congregation continues to be blessed in meeting together for morning and afternoon services in Wauchope most Sundays. When a month has five Sundays, the second service is held in the Kindee church building at 7 pm.

Elder Glen Hamilton has been leading most of the services.

Rev George Ball has come to preach on the 19th of July and the 30th of August.

Rev Peter Gadsby is filling the pulpit on the 6th and the 20th of September, while Rev Calum Macleod is doing so during the morning service on the 13th.

The interim moderator, Rev. Jim Klazinga, is scheduled to preach and administer the Lord's Supper on the 27th of September.

During the three months that Rev Klazinga is away overseas, from the middle of October to the middle of January, Rev David Kerridge

has graciously agreed to temporarily fill in as interim moderator.



* * * * *

Hawkesbury Nepean

[Report by Elizabeth Muldoon]

We continue to pray for our lovely sister, Finau, who is very sick. She continues to receive treatment for her cancer and we pray, that if it pleases the Lord, this treatment may be effective and that she may be granted some more time on earth with those she loves. Her family is very supportive and care for her with great love. One of her sisters has come out from Tonga to help look after her. Finau, herself, is trusting the Lord, day by day, to care for her and her family, and has committed herself to him whatever the outcome may be.

It is one year since Dylan Gale, a greatly loved young man in our church, was killed in a motorbike accident on his way home from church. Haylee, his wife, and Dylan's mother and father, his brother and sister, and their partners, wanted to have a little memorial service at the graveside to honour Dylan. It was a great privilege for Pastor Dennis and his wife, Elizabeth, to be invited to this service. We spent some time remembering Dylan - his kindness, his sense of fun, his good humour, his love for his family and especially his son, Levi. Dylan's family are not Christians at all, and were slightly bemused when their son gave his life to Jesus, but because of their great love for him and the respect they had for his faith, even though they couldn't understand it, they asked Pastor Dennis to read a passage from the Bible and pray with them. Dennis was able to share that we don't grieve for Dylan; we know he is with the Lord; but we grieve for

those who remain. We know that death, the great enemy, has been conquered by Jesus, and Dylan is now enjoying eternal life. We do pray for Dylan's family, as the thing Dylan would want most for them is that one day they, also, receive eternal life.

* * * * *

Hunter

[Report by Ian Miller]

An election of ruling elders is currently being progressed by Session. Rev Tso is to conduct a combined 10am Worship and ordination and/or induction Service at Raymond Terrace on Lord's Day 27 September. A fellowship lunch and an afternoon Worship Service will follow. Visitors would be most welcome. During September prior to the Family camp, we look forward to a visit by Rev Zac Dotson, Mrs Dotson and the children to the Hunter. It is planned that Rev Dotson will minister to us on Lord's Day 20th September.

A Psalmody is planned for 26 September at the Cardiff Church Hall to be conducted by our guest Miss Julie Schmidt, professional music teacher and precentor at the Brisbane Congregation. The event will commence (10 am) with a devotion, Psalmody practice, lunch (BYO), Psalm and tune requests concluding by 2 pm. Visitors are welcome.

Whilst at this stage no likely settled Hunter Ministry candidates are apparent, our congregation has been greatly blessed by the informative and challenging ministry of Rev George Ball and the ministry by Rev Dr Nobin Shunmugam. We continue in prayer for our persecuted brethren

worldwide, the Lord's provision of settled ministers for our vacant congregation and our other sister congregations. May the Lord of His Church provide our denomination's needs in His perfect time and build His Church.

* * * * *

Manning

[Report by Joyce Bennett]

Spring has sprung in the Manning we have been blessed with wonderful warm weather. Saturday 29th August we had a prayer morning before our Communion Service on the 30th. Friday the 25th September Lord willing we will be hosting a meeting of Central Presbytery and an Ordinary Visitation.

Another Garage Sale is planned for Saturday 5th September we are very thankful to those of our Church members who come & help us on the day we couldn't do what we do without their help.

Another month has gone by & once again we have been very blessed with faithful Elders & visiting preachers who have proclaimed God's Word to us.

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St. Georges

[Report by Alex Steel]

[Note: the following was printed in the St. Georges monthly congregational Bulletin - a comparison of the Shorter and Larger Catechism questions “Are there more Gods than one?”]

The Shorter and Larger Catechisms

Q 5. & Q 8. Are there more Gods than one?

A: There is but one only, the

living and true God.

Scripture Proofs

1. “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD” (Deuteronomy 6:4).

2. “Wherefore thou art great, O Lord God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears” (2 Samuel 7:22).

3. “I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me” (Isaiah 45:5).

4. “But the LORD *is* the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king” (Jeremiah 10:10).

5. “As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one” (1 Corinthians 8:4).

6. “But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him” (1 Corinthians 8:6).

Comments

This question deals with the *unity* of God. There are two kinds of Unity of Oneness – that of *number*, and that of *species* or kind. Hence, it is said, not merely *there is but One*, but -

There is but One only - There is one God, not two or many gods; and this one God is *only* God, unique and incomparable, such in kind that there and can be none like Him (2nd Samuel 7:22; Isaiah 44:6). This truth was taught by the Old Testament in opposition to the heaven belief in a plurality of gods which is called *Polytheism*. It is *opposed also to what is called Dualism, or the belief* in the existence of two eternal and conflicting powers, such as was held by the

ancient Persians. The unity of God was lost sight of even by the greatest nations of the old world, and with the most disastrous effects on their moral character. Even Israel for many centuries betrayed a fatal disposition to fall away from it.

The Living – A frequent and expressive title of God. It seems He has life in Himself, and is the source of all life in all others (Ps. 36:9). But it means also that, having life in Himself, he is able to reveal Himself, enter into fellowship with all men, and do great things for them. So it is for the *living* God that the saints of the old Testament cried out (Ps.42:2,84:2) ; and the prophets often contrast the *living* God of Israel with the gods of heathenism, who could do nothing for their worshippers. Not less is the use of this title in the New Testament, in such passages as Acts 14:15, and 2nd Corinthians 3:3. Notice how Christ speaks of *the living Father*(John 6:57); how Christ himself is acknowledged in Peter’s great confession as the Son of *the living God* (Matthew 16:16); how believers are called the *children*

of the living God (Romans 9:26); how the church is called the *church of the living God*(1 Timothy 3:15) .

And True God - a term used by Christ Himself (John17:3), and joined with the word *living* by Paul (1 Thessalonians 1:9). Here, probably, it means *real* as opposed to what is merely in semblance. The *true* God is the God who really exists, and is all that He seems or professes to be.

(From Principal Salmond D.D.,
Aberdeen – An Exposition of the Shorter Catechism)

Also from little children –

A little boy being asked, “How many Gods are there?” replied, “One.” ”How do you know that?” Because “ said the boy,” there is only room for one, for He fills heaven and earth.”

A child about eight years old who lived in that part of India known as the Northern Circars, and who had been educated in Christianity, was ridiculed on that account, by some heathens older than himself. In reply, he repeated what he had been taught respecting God. “Show us your God!” said the heathens. “I cannot do that,” answered the child; but I

can soon show you yours.” Taking up a stone, and daubing it with some resemblance of a human face, he placed it very gravely upon the ground, and pushing it towards them with his foot, said, “There is such a god as you worship.”

(From John Whitecross – *The Shorter Catechism Illustrated*)

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Ulverstone

[Report by Zach Dotson]

The month of August for Ulverstone was a month of loss. Two of our most diligent members: Phil and Suzanne Thompson moved north to Canberra. We will miss them very much, and we trust the Lord will bless them in the capital city.

We further are thankful for visitors and encouragements.

We continue with our series in Mark and 1 Samuel.

On the 23rd, we were also able to observe the Lord’s Supper which was a great blessing.

The Lord continues his work in our lives, and in that we rejoice.

FAMILY CAMP 2026

**Monday 21nd - Thursday 24th September
At Camp Elim, Forster, NSW**

**Speaker: Rev Zach Dotson
Theme: Communion with God**

September 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 5 and 8)

1 Peter 4

1. How should we live, seeing the end of all things is at hand? (2 verses)
2. Why were the believers to rejoice in their fiery trial? (2 verses)

1 Peter 2

3. Why should we humble ourselves under the hand of God? (2 verses)
4. What does Peter pray the God of all grace to do for his readers?

2 Peter 1

5. List the 8 graces that we are to add to each another.
6. What words had Peter heard when he and the other apostles were eye witnesses of the Lord's majesty?

2 Peter 2

7. What did God do to the angels that sinned, and to the old [ancient] world? (2 verses only)

2 Peter 3

8. What will happen to the heavens and the earth that now exist? What do we look for according to God's promise? (2 separate verses)

Junior

1 Kings 19

1. Who came to Elijah as he slept under the juniper [broom] tree?
2. What did Elijah do when he heard the still small voice?
3. How many people did the Lord have left in Israel who did not worship Baal?
4. On whom did Elijah cast his mantle?

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.

September Prayer Points

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

Tuesday, 1st: Pray for the Hunter congregation as they prepare to go for George and Robin as they office-bearers: for elder Ian Miller; overseas for three months, from the anticipate attending portions of the and for deacons Richard Alley, 12th of October to the 13th of PCA General Assembly next week. David Barnes, John Fluit, Ken January. George & Ian King.

Wednesday, 2nd: At this year's meeting, it was resolved: “The Synod gives thanks to the Lord for the opportunity and privilege to be involved in the work of missions at home and abroad, both in giving, in praying and being directly involved during this past year.” Pray for the continuing ministries of the Presbyterian Free Church of Central India.

Thursday, 3rd: Pray for Jim and Julie Klazinga of the Brisbane

Friday, 4th: Pray for preparations being made for the church camp being held later this month. Pray for Zach Dotson as he prepares to give the talks.

Saturday, 5th: At this year's meeting, it was resolved that synod, “Approves Rev. Robin Tso and Rev. George Ball attending the Presbyterian Church of Australia's General Assembly of Australia (Scots Church Wynyard, Sydney, 7–11 September 2026) as fraternal representatives of the PCEA.” Pray

Sunday, 6th: Pray that God by His Spirit may enable those attending our services today to offer worship with humble and submissive hearts.

Monday, 7th: Pray for the Southern Presbytery, which is scheduled to have a meeting tomorrow.

Tuesday, 8th: Pray for the continuing ministry of the Manning congregation in Taree.

Wednesday, 9th: Pray for the Manning office-bearers: for elders

September Prayer Points

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

Clive Alley, Young Lee, Trevor Leggott, Neil Robinson, and Peter Smith; and for deacons Mark Hamilton, Marshall Reid, Alistair Weber, and David Wilson.

Thursday, 10th: Pray for the ministry of Rev. Shanmugan Partheepan in the Reformed Protestant Mission in Sri Lanka.

Friday, 11th: 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.” Pray for churches in the ICRC with us, including the Reformed Churches in South Africa, the Free Church in Southern Africa, and the Free Reformed Churches in South Africa.

Saturday, 12th: Pray for the members in our congregations who are living in nursing homes.

Sunday, 13th: From a prayer entitled, ‘Confidence’ from ‘The Valley of Vision’ – “O God, Thou art very great, My lot is to approach thee with godly fear and humble confidence, for thy condescension equals thy grandeur, and thy goodness is thy glory. I am unworthy, but thou dost welcome; guilty, but thou art merciful; indigent, but thy riches are unsearchable.” Give thanks that, even though we are unworthy sinners, we can still approach God in worship, because of Jesus Christ.

Monday, 14th: Pray for the continuing ministry of the

Hastings congregation in Wauchope.

Tuesday, 15th: Pray for the Hastings office-bearers: for elders Doug Hamilton and Glen Hamilton, and for deacon Neil McKinnon.

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

Thursday, 17th: Continue to pray for our vacant congregations as they consider the matter of calling a pastor.

Friday, 18th: Pray for Finau of the Hawkesbury Nepean congregation as she continues to receive treatments for cancer.

Saturday, 19th: Pray for the final preparations being made for the church camp being held next week.

Sunday, 20th: John Owen, in his collected works, writes, “Both these—namely, faith and sight, the one in this life, the other in that which is to come—have the same immediate object. For they are the abilities of the soul to go forth unto, and to embrace their object. Now, this object of them both is the glory of Christ.” Pray that our services today will be used by God to strengthen faith and increase our desire to embrace the glory of Christ.

Monday, 21st: Pray for the church camp beginning today at Camp Elim in Forster.

Tuesday, 22nd: Pray for the ministry of the Northern Rivers congregation in MacLean.

Wednesday, 23rd: Pray for the Northern Rivers office-bearers: for

Rev David Kerridge; for elders Ross Campbell, John Greensill, and John McPhee; and for deacons Gordon Law and Peter Van den Burg.

Thursday, 24th: Pray for the church camp concluding today at Camp Elim in Forster. Pray for travelling mercies home for the attendees.

Friday, 25th: Pray for Young Lee and his work with Indigenous children in Taree.

Saturday, 26th: At this year’s meeting, it was resolved, “Synod reaffirms the importance of serious, personal, systematic Bible study and persistent private and corporate prayer, and family worship. Synod commends the use of daily devotionals from a reformed perspective as a supplement to, but not a substitute for more serious Bible study.”

Sunday, 27th: Pray that, as we worship as assembled congregations, God may enable us to remember “his fervent zeal for his own worship and his revengeful indignation against all false worship.” (WLC Q&A 110)

Monday, 28th: Pray for the ministry of the Brisbane congregation.

Tuesday, 29th: Pray for the Brisbane office-bearers: for Rev Jim Klazinga; for elders Stewart Carswell and Wes Hanna; and for deacons Keith Schmidt and Matthew Schmidt.

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

