

CONNECT

UNLEASHING TEAM SPIRIT

Sports Day

ISSUE 26
DECEMBER 2023
BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE



Seventh-day
Adventist Church™

Western Australia

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CELEBRATING GOD'S *Creation*
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Adventists WA

Published by [Chloe Watson](#) · October 14 ·

Last Sabbath was a time of rejoicing in the Pilbara with 6 baptisms and the organising of the Port [Hedland Seventh-day Adventist Church](#) ❤️



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Write a comment...



Joy Watts

A good news story to cheer us all up. God bless U all.

5w

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Author

Adventists WA

[Joy Watts](#) thank you. God bless you too. 🙏

4w

Like

Reply



Marilou Caberte

Baptism ❤️❤️❤️

5w

Love

Reply

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Dauda Mallick

Amen ❤️

CONNECT is the official magazine of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (Western Australian Conference) Ltd

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Western Australia acknowledges the Whadjuk People of the Noongar Nation as the traditional custodians of this land and is committed to working in the Spirit of Jesus to achieve a legacy of reconciliation, justice and hope for all Australians.

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We are grateful to our faithful army of volunteers who share the good news about how Jesus is impacting lives across WA. Thank you for giving your time and talents to our humble publication.

SUNDAY, 31 MARCH
3.00 pm – 5.30 pm

*Book a stall
the Sunday
Market Day at
Easter Camp*

Open to all groups, churches,
Pathfinder clubs or charities to
raise funds for something directly
associated with the Seventh-day
Adventist Church and mission.

Contact Cathy Kingston
catherinekingston@adventist.org.au
for an application form. Applications
close **8th of January 2024.**



URGENT

EASTER CAMP 2024 TENDERS AND CONTRACTS

The Camp Planning Committee is still looking for groups to take care of the following areas at Easter Camp. If you are a church group, pathfinder club or school mission team looking to raise funds, these services could be for you.

Springs for Conference Tents – to be put out on Sun, 24 March and taken down Tue, 2 April.

Ablution Cleaning – from Wed, 27 March - Tue, 2 April.

Camp Store – from Thur, 28 March - Mon, 1 April.

If you are interested in undertaking any of the above, please contact Cathy Kingston at the Conference office: 9398 7222 or catherinekingston@adventist.org.au for a job description and application form.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer helpers with AdSafe and WWCC to assist with afternoon activities in various divisions. Please contact Cathy Kingston at the Conference office: 9398 7222 or catherinekingston@adventist.org.au



Devoted



Jesus' death on the cross, His burial and resurrection, is the greatest event in history and has had a huge impact on my life. Accepting Jesus as my Saviour has brought me a vision of God's love and hope for the future. Life has never been the same since I came to the foot of the cross and chose to accept Jesus and be His disciple. Our Conference Discipleship Ministries Team have developed a great definition of discipleship: "Discipleship is the lifelong process of Learning to Follow Jesus to become more like Him for the Benefit of Others."

This is not about me, but about Jesus. My heart wants to please Him because He loves me so

much (John 3:16). Being more like Jesus comes out of being devoted to Him. He gives me a new heart and puts his Spirit in me (Ezekiel 36:26), which changes what my heart wants. Instead of making excuses for my sinful behaviour, my desire is to present my body as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to Him (Romans 12:1).

This year, our Discipleship team has focused on providing resources such as Follow 23 and Read the Bible in a Year. This has been valuable for myself in practicing a life of devotion to God, and I have enjoyed engaging with Him in reading Scripture and prayer. These are disciplines that I have followed for many years as a disciple of

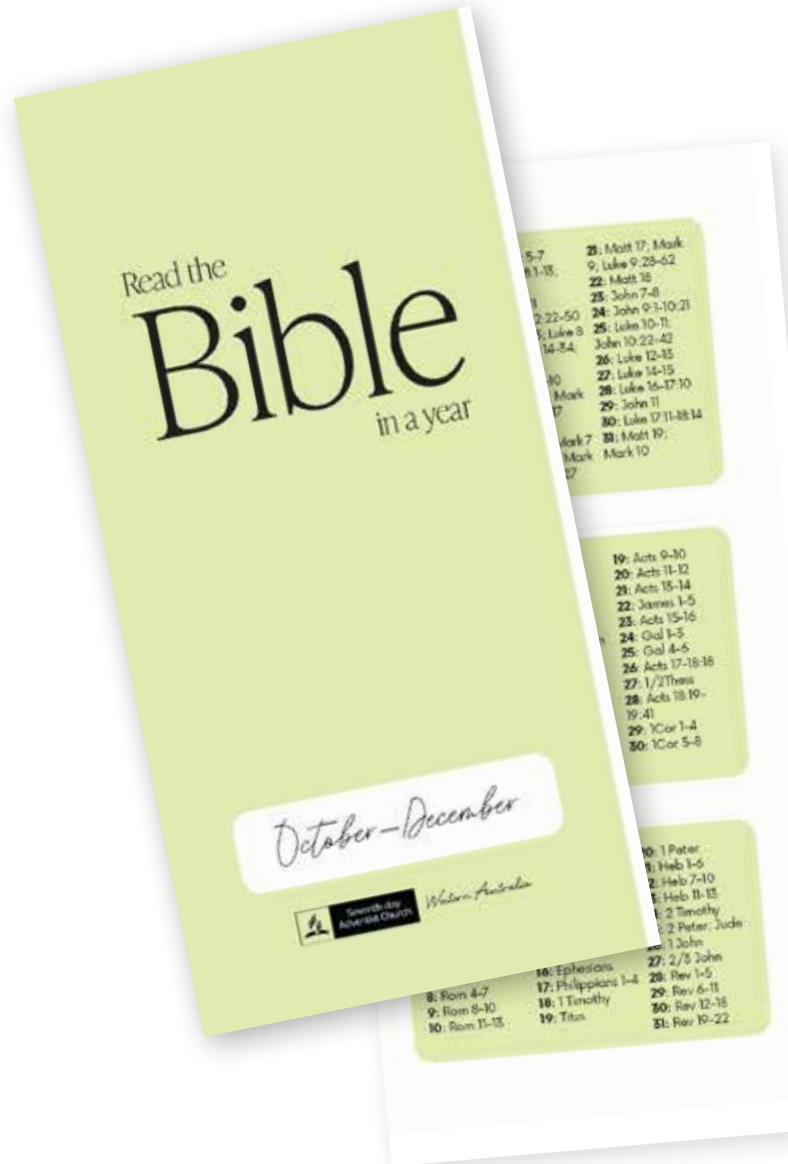


Jesus. I do this because I am devoted to Jesus, not to gain any merit. Over the years, there have been struggles and some inconsistency, but I always come back to it because it brings me to the water of life – Jesus Christ.

My devotion to Jesus is not about me, and I am challenged to think about the benefit of others. If you read the book of Acts, the focus is on mission and sharing the story of Jesus in words and action. A real focus of devotion to Jesus is to be part of His community – the body of Christ or the Church. The facts are that the church does not exist for itself. It exists for the benefit to others. The light on the hill or the salt in the world (Matt 5:13-16). Any actions or words are to glorify God not us. It is never about us.

Next year, our Discipleship Ministry Team will focus on small groups. This is very Acts 2:42-47 – meeting together, devoting time to teaching, prayer, Lord's Supper, generosity, and worship of God. This biblical model was not just about the believer, but about new people. Each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.

In your devotion to God, think about how you can start up a small group or a different kind of Sabbath kind of School class that resembles the New Testament model. Resist the temptation of only focusing on teaching and include prayer, the Lord's Supper regularly, acts of generosity and worship of God. Make sure what you do is for the benefit of others. By the time you read this, it will be getting close to Christmas and the New Year. Christmas is a great time to remember the greatest gift – Jesus Christ. In the New Year, think and plan to be part of a small group that imitates the New Testament rather than your comfort zone.



Pr Steve Goods

President, Public Affairs
and Religious Liberty



CONNECT

GROWING IN JESUS

BIG TENT

LLOYD GROLIMUND

25+ TENT

TERRY JOHNSON

YOUTH SHED

NIMROD MAUA

TEEN SHED

LACHLAN HARDERS

JUNIORS

CARLOS FAUATEA

HEALTH

DR DARYL CHENG

MORNING WORSHIP

DR JOHN HAMMOND

BIBLE STUDY TIME

DR ANTHONY MCPHERSON
AND ROBBIE BERGHAN



EASTER CAMP REGISTRATION

**Secure your Campsites
& Attendee Passes from
1 February 2024.**

Campsites and Attendee Passes will be available via the WA Conference website from 1 February 2024. The only places to be booked via phone will be cabins reserved for the elderly and disabled.

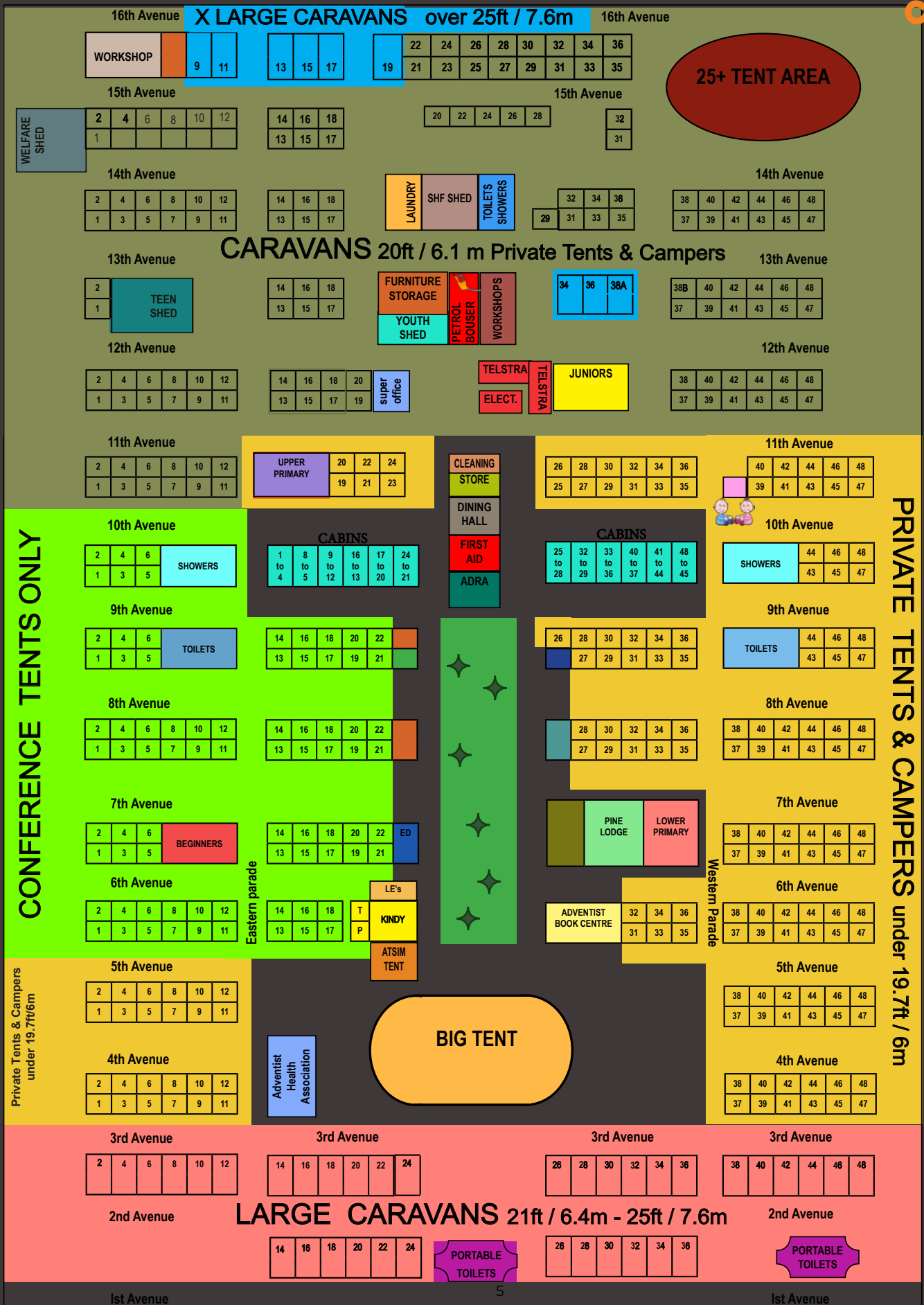
If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to contact Lynne Turner (08) 9398 7222.

The map on the following page allows you to see the campsite numbers so you can plan ahead and work out where you would like to camp for Easter. The online registration will allow you to click on the map and select your site and then process through the booking with ease.

On 1 February, the WA Conference website will provide links to campsite bookings, attendee registration and children's activities .

**Go to wa.adventist.org.au
for more information.**







Devotional

About six years ago, the idea of owning and riding a motorbike became incredibly attractive. The thought of enjoying fun weekend rides with a group of young guys from the church I pastored, who had a passion for motorbike riding, seemed like something I'd love. The only problem was that I'd never owned or ridden a bike.

So, I decided to enrol in a riding course to get my motorbike licence. After attending lessons, I quickly realised that not everything about motorbike riding was fun. I didn't like the protective gear I had to wear because it felt uncomfortable and hot, the posture of sitting on the bike felt unnatural and tiring, and even the fear of being hit by a car. These were some of the reasons that made me give up. To this day, I still don't have a motorbike licence and can't ride one because I wasn't devoted to that cause.

It's never easy to persist in situations of difficulty and resistance. I can think of several times in my life when I haven't persisted, especially when things were challenging.

We are a generation that values convenience and quick results. With a few clicks of your computer, you can have your grocery shopping delivered to your door, or if you're hungry, there's a microwave or a drive-through lane around the corner. As a matter of experience, our ability to persist is significantly reduced. But we know too well that, in most cases, anything worth having or experiencing doesn't come easy.

In the Bible, Jesus taught the value of persistence and devotion. In Luke 18, He tells the parable of the widow whose only attribute to success was her persistence. Jesus uses the story to highlight that this lady had nothing going for her except



her persistence. The concept of a widow was to underscore her deep and utter helplessness. As a woman without a husband in that culture, she didn't have much clout to command attention from anyone, let alone a judge. The only reason she got what she needed was simply because of her persistence and devotion. That's why the story begins with these words:

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up."

In 2016, Angela Duckworth, a researcher and psychologist, wrote a book called *'Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance'*. In it, she writes from her own story and personal experience of being ordinary and without any real talent, trying to fit into a family of high achievers, with a dad who was a scientist. Angela explores the idea that success isn't solely determined by talent, but also by the combination of passion and perseverance, which Duckworth terms "grit." The book argues that individuals who cultivate a deep interest in a particular pursuit and then commit themselves to long-term, focused effort are more likely to achieve success than those who rely solely on talent or intelligence.

I think as a church, we Seventh-day Adventists need some grit. With all the effort and hard work we've put into the mission, it can be discouraging when we don't see results commensurate with our efforts, making it easy for us to give up and conclude that the mission doesn't work anymore.

If you're tempted to be discouraged, I urge you to draw inspiration from the New Testament church as portrayed in the book of Acts. They demonstrated grit in a powerful way.

In Acts 2:42, we read:

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

There are a couple of key ideas I want to highlight from this text.

The first is the word "Devoted". This word in the original Greek language, *proskartereó*, has a rich meaning. It means "to continue to do something with intense effort, with the possible implication of despite difficulty – to devote oneself to, to keep on, to persist in".

The second idea is that the early church was devoted in two aspects. First, their relationship with God, captured in their devotion to the teachings of Scripture. And second, their relationship with each other. It can be said they were devoted to both vertical and horizontal relationships. I believe these two go hand in hand.

As a Conference, in 2023 we have focused on devotion to God. Just like the early believers, that is key and foundational. Next year, in 2024, we are adding a second dimension similar to the early church, which is our horizontal relationships. We need both in our walk with God. As we learn to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, we are to love our neighbours as ourselves. And Jesus ends by saying, "There is no other commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:30-31).

Pr. Obed Soire

Discipleship Ministries Team
Sabbath School/Church Health
North Perth Seventh-day Adventist Church



Welcome to our church *family*



A Sabbath of Joyful Declarations: Celebrating New Beginnings at Clarkson

The joy keeps coming in heaven and at Clarkson Seventh-day Adventist Church. On Sabbath 7 October, Joel Borner and Zoltan Horvath, publicly declared their faith in the Lord Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection by committing their lives to Jesus through baptism.



Donna Swinburne also declared her profession of faith in Jesus. Joel, Zoltan, and Donna were lovingly accepted into the Clarkson Church family.

Officiating the baptisms were Pr Geoffrey Plewright, elder Tony Di Florio, and Neville Blumears. Elder Tony Di Florio and Alex Panev conducted Amazing Facts Bible studies and the 28 Fundamental Beliefs with Joel, Zoltan, and Donna throughout 2023. The service was followed by a basket lunch and fellowship.

Praise the Lord for His love and enabling power as we assist in winning souls.

Arthur Pettifor
Clarkson Seventh-day Adventist Church



Celebration of Faith: Rosemary Osborne's Inspiring Journey Back to Baptism

On 28 October, Livingston Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated the baptism of Rosemary Osborne.

Rosemary shared with our church some of her testimony and her passion for Jesus.



Rosemary and her twin sister Beverly were fostered into an Adventist home. They stopped attending church in their 20's and now, around 50 years later, they have both given their lives to Jesus. Rosemary reflected on her experiences sharing that she knew God had always been with her. She shared how much she wants to share the Gospel with others. She has already played a massive role in reigniting Beverly's faith who was baptised in December 2022. It was easy to see her passion for God and I felt very inspired by her testimony.

Megan Hunter

Livingston Seventh-day Adventist Church

A New Chapter in Faith: Cale Newitt's Joyful Baptism at Fremantle

The Fremantle Seventh-day Adventist Church community was blessed to witness the baptism of Cale Newitt on 7 October at Fremantle Church. Cale chose to follow Jesus after Bible studies and mentor visits with Pr Clark Riggins this year



and Pr Cameron Hooper last year. It was a very spiritual day when Cale publicly affirmed his commitment to Jesus, and the church affirmed their commitment to being a part of his discipleship journey into the future. Afterwards, Brendan and Darlene (Cale's parents), were joined by elders and others who influenced Cale's spiritual journey and prayed for the baptism of the Holy Spirit over Cale's new life. We look forward to seeing what God has planned for him in the future.

Clark Riggins

Fremantle Seventh-day Adventist Church

A Double Celebration: Sarah Roberts Marks Her Birthday and Baptism with Joy and Faith

Sarah Roberts, daughter of Lisa and Damon Roberts and sister to Jason, celebrated the beginning of her life (her 11th birthday) and also the beginning of her new life with Jesus (her baptism) on a special



weekend in September.

Sarah's friends, teachers, family and church members gathered together at Bickley Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, 16 September, to celebrate her baptism, to witness her public commitment to follow her Saviour, and also to welcome her into church membership, conducted by Pr Max Souradeth.

Thanks to live-streaming technology, Sarah's family and grandparents in the Eastern states were able to join in the celebrations of her special day.

As Sarah goes forward in her journey with Jesus, we pray that God will continue to richly bless and guide her and that she will always put her faith and trust in Him who loves her.

Pam Fairfoul

Bickley Seventh-day Adventist Church



International food night @ Livingston

During our worship program, we were welcomed in thirteen different languages and prayed for in three languages. Our international food night social was a wonderful time together with our church, friends, and former church members coming to try the many cuisines offered. Altogether we had 14 counties represented. It

was too exciting trying to decide which food to try. I'm pretty sure everyone left feeling very full. A massive thank you to the many people who contributed!

Megan Hunter

Livingston Seventh-day Adventist Church





WA Literature Evangelists Attend Summit

This year's Literature Evangelists (LE) Summit took place at the beautiful Watson Park Convention Centre in Brisbane, Queensland. Leaders arrived on Sunday, October 22 and delegates, LEs, and guests arrived on October 24. The WA Conference had seven representatives this year, including four LEs.

We were fortunate to have great speakers from the GC - Pr Steven Apola, the Australian Union - Pr Terry Johnson and Pr Nicu Dumbrava, alongside esteemed authors like Sue Rad and Sukeshinie Goonatilleke, among other pastors and motivators.

The sessions were inspiring, motivating us to forge ahead with the Literature Ministry and to pray for continued growth within the WA team. Despite the prevailing notion that books and

printed literature are on the decline, there's been an increase in demand and growth for these products. Statistics from 2023 revealed that 62% of 16-24-year-olds prefer printed books to ebooks, and 68% of 18-29-year-olds favor printed books over ebooks.

Among the numerous meeting highlights, two standout moments were the awards and recognition bestowed upon WA LEs. Bruce Mccourt received the Faithfulness Award, sharing the honor with another LE from a different Conference. Additionally, the WA Youth Rush Team was acknowledged with the Youth Rush Award for their exceptional contribution, receiving recognition for the highest number of books shared and donations received per person.

Paul Bodor

WA Literature Ministry Coordinator

Fasting Podcast Delayed

We were so excited to start our podcast on fasting during November. Unfortunately, we got delayed. But keep your eye out next year because we have something exciting happening in this space. We can't wait to share with you!

Pr. Jody Eddy

Discipleship Ministries Team Leader



Busselton Kids Club

The team at the Busselton Kids Club was quite diverse, ranging from a lady in her eighties prepping and serving fruit to enthusiastic seven and nine year-olds engaging in actions for the songs, alongside a 11-year-old who took charge of presenting to the kids.

This year's theme was "Stellar - Shine Jesus' Light." The focus was on encouraging the kids to illuminate Jesus' light in their community a mission they wholeheartedly embraced.

In Busselton, the number of church kids altogether might add up to about a dozen, but the kids' club attracted around 30 kids each day.

It's evident that evangelism can be simple - find something compelling about the Bible and invite others to join in. Pr Derek engaged with the kids on their level, conducting various experiments to demonstrate how shining Jesus' light can have a greater impact than we realize.

A big congratulations to Busselton - Keep Shining!!

Pr. Andrew Olsen
Discipleship Ministries Team
Children & Youth Ministries

Goldfields ATSIM Regional

In early October, Pr Brad Thomas (Conference Secretary) and Pr Darren Peakall (ATSIM Leader) embarked on a wonderful journey through the Wheatbelt for the Goldfields ATSIM regional

event held in Kalgoorlie. The local church graciously hosted a beautifully presented agape feast on Friday night, where Darren captivated the children with a story and led an evening





devotion. On Sabbath, Brad delivered an inspiring message, followed by a delightful luncheon.

Witnessing the progress in the mining town and meeting individuals returning to church, eager to delve deeper into the Bible, was truly encouraging.

It was a pleasure to connect with Pr Brendan Hayes, the local pastor, and witness the

enthusiasm within the community. A big shoutout to Brendan, his wife Tina, and the local church for their dedicated work in Kalgoorlie!

Pr. Darren Peakall

Discipleship Ministries Team

ATSIM Ministries

Karla Bidjar Seventh-day Adventist Church

Norseman Training

In late October, Pr Darren flew in a light aircraft with Pr David Garrard and Pr Connie Toga to Norseman for a combined ATSIM (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministry) WA and Mamarapha training weekend. Families traveled from Kalgoorlie to join the local Norseman community for a two-part Bible Study workshop.

Sabbath commenced with Darren delivering a message about true surrender to God, emphasizing that before sharing Jesus through Bible study, we must first surrender our lives to God.

Connie led the first part of the workshop, focusing on the purpose behind Bible studies and how to prepare effectively. Following a wonderful lunch prepared by Tina, the workshop delved into practical sessions, allowing participants to engage in mock Bible studies with one another.

Feedback received afterward was positive, as the aim was to instill confidence in lay members to comfortably share simple Bible studies in one-on-one or group settings. ATSIM WA's long-term strategy aims to cultivate leaders capable of contributing to the ATSIM ministry.

Later that evening, local members gathered with the team at the Norseman Beacon lookout for fellowship and to close Sabbath. Early Sunday morning, the team flew back to Perth, grateful for safe travel and the collaborative effort in enhancing lay member involvement statewide.

For those interested in learning more about involvement in ATSIM ministry, please contact Darren Peakall through the conference office on 08 9398 7222.

Pr. Darren Peakall

Discipleship Ministries Team

ATSIM Ministries

Karla Bidjar Seventh-day Adventist Church





Intergenerational Church At Albany

From his first day as the new minister in 2023, Pr. David de Klerk said his dream for Albany was to have a family atmosphere in the church where he would be happy to raise his children. Since then, there have been a variety of events that have fostered just such an atmosphere. Seven deaconesses were ordained, including two mother-daughter pairs. The worship service usually includes a children's segment and young ones sometimes help lead worship.

When Ken Willis celebrated a special birthday he was joined by his father David and son Carl to sing "Jesus Loves Me". On another occasion Pr. Roger Millist conducted the dedication of young Cooper Willis at Middleton beach, witnessed by family and friends who were invited to highlight their favorite text in the Bible purchased for Cooper's special day.

In September, over 60 adults and children gathered for a Father's Day breakfast, ably

prepared by Kevin Gould and team. This was followed by a café style Sabbath School in the hall where the pastor was joined by children and youth to sing choruses and children read fun facts about how fathers in the animal kingdom care for their young. Jessica Gould had previously asked the children questions about their fathers such as, "How does Dad help your family?" and "In what way is your father like God?" and their answers – some humorous, others profound were shared with the group. During the service that day fathers were invited to join their children up the front for a special dedicatory prayer.

Kid's Church was initiated by Jodie Rozendaal three years ago with help from Sarah-Jane Plewright and continues to be enjoyed by the children once a month with songs, Bible stories, craft activities and snacks with assistance from the youth.



Also this year members enjoyed a weekend of training by ADRA representatives, Francis from Perth and Kelli-Jo from Sydney. We were encouraged to put forward ideas and examine our capacity to help respond in an emergency.

Recently twenty or more (aged three months to 80+!) gathered seven nights in a row for a week of prayer with a difference – games, crafts and

Bible insights concluding with a Friday night communion meal. This was enjoyed so much it is sure to be added to the calendar for next year.

May the Holy Spirit continue to inspire the atmosphere in Albany church where young and old are nurtured together as the family of God.

Diane Major

Albany Seventh-day Adventist Church

iCHOOSE

Our young people at Armadale have now finished their first ever iCHOOSE study series. Meeting together once a week, the group of 25 young people studied, played, prayed and ate together as they learnt and experienced more about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. They explored topics like the nature of death, who is Jesus, the importance of health, the role of the Holy Spirit and choosing a church. Some of the participants have responded with the following:

- *"I loved it all!"*
- *"It was great to have somewhere to ask hard questions."*
- *"It was awesome to hang out together and play games."*
- *"I loved the cookies!"*

- *"Learning about what the church is meant to be was the best."*

A number of them have made the decision to get baptised and plans are already underway for nine of our young people to make that next step on their journey with Jesus. A huge thank you to the leaders who helped model and guide these young believers.

Pr. Kyle Richardson

Armadale Seventh-day Adventist Church



Albany Men's Camp

February 16-18 2024

Get ready for an exhilarating escape to the stunning South Coast! Join us for an incredible weekend filled with camaraderie, where men unite amidst breathtaking landscapes. It's not just an event; it's a soulful journey we're eager to share.

Your presence will elevate this enriching spiritual experience! It is a lovely spiritual weekend and we would live your company.

To book please call Vern on 0402847870 or David on 0408187243

Victoria Park Christian School – Messy Church

Our Victoria Park Christian School launched a fresh initiative this year called Messy Church. This ministry takes place on the first Friday evening of each term month, and we've already had four gatherings. Messy Church focuses on being Christ-centered, fostering creativity, catering to all ages, and promoting celebration and fellowship through hospitality. We've averaged over 50 attendees at our regular gatherings, and we're actively seeking more ways to connect our non-Christian school community with Jesus. One family remarked, "This was the first time we've ever been to a church, and it was amazing. Next time I'm bringing the rest of my family", (and they did, by the way).

We've enjoyed exploring the Fruit of the Spirit along with some of our core values. Parents and children have actively participated in acting, building with LEGO, singing, creating sidewalk chalk drawings, and puppetry – all to convey more about God. This has been possible through the hard work and dedication of our school staff, the prayers and support of our families, the generosity of the WA Conference, and most importantly, by God's providence.

Pr. Kyle Richardson

Armadale Seventh-day Adventist Church



‘Following Jesus - The Light of the World’

I have a niece who is about to turn ten years old. Do you remember when you were ten? Adventurer Camporee is designed for four-nine year-olds. The average five year-old asks about 100 questions a day. With just over 200 Adventurers over a weekend, that's around about 40,000 questions in one weekend! The curiosity, the energy, the laughter, the tears, the friendships, the meals, the worship, the games, the running around, and the running around, and the running around - it never seemed to stop.

‘Following Jesus - The Light of the World’ was this year's theme. Chaplain SJ (Sarah-Jane Plewright)

did a fantastic job telling some Bible stories about what it looks like to be a follower of Jesus today.

I want to say a huge ‘thank you’ to all of our Adventurer club leaders and helpers for the tireless effort they give and the massive amount of time they pour into our young people. Look around your church. Find someone who is not yet ten. Find out what you can learn from them today! Matthew 18:5 states, ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.’

Pr. Andrew Olsen

Discipleship Ministries Team
Children & Youth Ministries





Teen Expedition 2023: Follow Him

In a dynamic and exciting venture, 30 teens, accompanied by 12 dedicated staff, navigated through Perth's suburbs and CBD, lodging at various SDA churches along the way before arriving at Advent Park and spending a few nights there.

They engaged in various activities throughout the week, from foot races around Rockingham, Fremantle, and the CBD, to biking through the city, canoeing the Canning River, abseiling at Statham's Quarry, and participating in a service project at Cannington Seventh-day Adventist Church. Teens forged bonds, discovered resilience, and faced leadership challenges throughout the week.

Each day commenced and concluded with heartfelt worship to foster spiritual reflection and growth with God, with the week's theme based on Jesus' invitation in Matthew 4:18, to "Follow Him."

This teen expedition, blending faith and physical challenges, stands as a testament to the church's commitment to disciple and nurture character and resilience in its youth, fostering growth in their relationship with God. Thank you for your support of our young people, and a big thank you to the staff volunteers and the churches that opened up to allow us to utilize their facilities for the expedition

Pr. Cameron Hooper

Discipleship Ministries Team
Children & Youth Ministries
North Perth Seventh-day Adventist Church



ATSIM NATIONAL CAMP

January 10 -15, 2024

Djarragun College, Gordonvale, QLD



Cabin + Meals



\$290 - Adult

\$262 - Child

Airconditioned ensuite cabins
Linen, blankets & pillows included

Day Visitors



\$15 - Adult

\$10 - Child

Adult - 16 years +
Child - Under 16 years

Classroom + Meals



\$200 - Adult

\$172 - Child

Airconditioned classrooms
BYO mattress & sleeping gear

Camping + Meals



\$190 - Adult

\$162 - Child

Undercover basketball courts
BYO tent & sleeping gear



Secure your accommodation and meals in advance!

Registration Forms are available from your local
ATSIM Director or

✉ aucatsim@adventist.org.au ☎ 03 9871 7555

HURRY!!
REGISTER NOW



Adventist Christian Schools (WA) Updates

Farewell Mrs Delys Rogers

On behalf of Adventist Christian Schools (WA), we would like to honour and affirm Mrs Delys Rogers for her time spent at Esperance Christian School. She faithfully stepped into the principal role at the beginning of 2022. Delys, and her husband Kevin, have moved back to Perth and we wish them both well as they ease back into retirement.

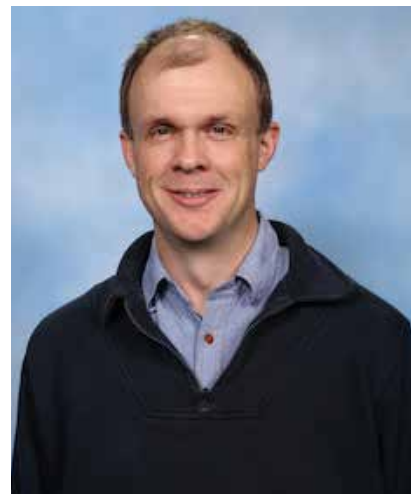
The school and its community will miss Mrs Rogers. She has been an important part of many young people's lives as an educator throughout the years, as well as serving on our Board of Directors.



We want to thank Mrs Rogers for her dedication in serving our mission, her passion and enthusiasm for quality Adventist Education, and the way that she supported the school community.

Welcome Mr Boucher

We would like to offer our warm welcome to Mr Nicholas Boucher as the new principal at Esperance Christian School. We are looking forward to getting to know Mr Boucher as a person and learning more about the vision and ideas that he has for our Esperance school. Mr Boucher is deeply committed to Adventist education and has a strong desire to positively impact students' lives. We ask for your continued support and prayers for Mr Boucher and his beautiful family as he transitions into this new role.



Mark Foster

Associate Director of Education

INTERESTED IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

Scan the QR code or visit www.adventist.edu.au/careers/ to view current vacancies across Seventh-day Adventist Schools in WA

ESPERANCE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ESPERANCE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL WOULD LIKE TO ESTABLISH A POOL OF RELIEF STAFF. TEACHERS AND EDUCATION ASSISTANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY BY CONTACTING THE SCHOOL IN PERSON, BY PHONE (9071 2703) OR ONLINE (ADMIN@ECS.WA.EDU.AU).



Unleashing Team Spirit: Highlights from Primary School Sports Day

On the 31 October, primary students from Carmel, Landsdale and Victoria Park gathered together at the Gerry Archer Athletics Field to participate in this year's Sports Day. The day was kicked off with a fantastic devotional from Pr. Andrew Olsen, who reminded us that we are all on God's team. Throughout the day, great sportsmanship was displayed from all students in their races and team games. The students should all be very proud of their awesome efforts and achievements that were on display. It was fantastic to see so many parents, grandparents and family members there to support the kids. A big thank you to our incredible staff members and volunteers who were crucial in making this day possible. We can't wait for next year!

Jenay Menzie

Admin Assistant - Education



African Camp Revives Faith and Community Spirit

The WA African Camp held in Maida Vale, WA, gathered around 350 individuals from diverse African backgrounds. Taking place from October 3 - 8, 2023, it has grown into an eagerly anticipated event among African Seventh-day Adventists and others, drawing participants from various African nations and welcoming people of all nationalities.

This journey began in 2021 due to the cancellation of the WA Easter camp because of COVID-19 restrictions, which limited gatherings to just 100 people. In response, members of the Zimbabwean Dorcas Women and Adventist Men Organization organized the "Back to the Wilderness" camp in Jarrahdale. Little did they expect the profound impact it would have, rekindling a sense of Christian community among those grappling with isolation and losses due to lockdowns.

The camp revitalized spirits by sharing the Word of God and singing traditional songs in native languages, sparking a spiritual revival. Its impact extended beyond spirituality, fostering unity in a community known for its communal values. From this success, the camp expanded, attracting participants not only from Africa but

also from diverse backgrounds. This year, there was a surge in attendees from various African countries, featuring dynamic presentations by different speakers, including Pr. Obed Soire and Pr. Leslie Ncube, whose inspirational messages left lasting impressions.



Aside from spiritual upliftment, the camp provided educational support. Teresa Hort emphasized the importance of wills, a free service sponsored by the Conference. Youth sessions addressed mental health and parenting issues, acknowledging the needs of younger attendees.



The event highlighted the community's talent through a musical concert and conducted fundraising activities to support attendees financially.

Looking back at the 2023 camp, it was a blessing and a source

of spiritual nourishment. Anticipation for the 2024 gathering 24-29 September is already growing, welcoming all seeking a spiritual experience and a diverse community.

Cheneso Madembo

African Camp Committee Member



Read the full article at adventistswa.com ► News

Heather Stewart Johnson, the ADRA Cannington Community Garden Matriarch, Retires

When I was tasked with overseeing ADRA programs in WA, the Cannington Community Garden caught my attention. Initially, its significance eluded me, coming from a culture where gardening is commonplace. However, my understanding transformed upon engaging with Heather and her team.

The Cannington Community

Garden, located at 142 Wharf St in Cannington, is more than a space for horticulture; it's a hub for community development. Heather, the founding volunteer manager, has been pivotal in turning the church's barren land into a vibrant garden, fostering a sense of community in Cannington. This garden has not only beautified the area but also provided a tranquil retreat for the city's diverse residents. It's a place where people from various backgrounds mingle, work, and relax, embodying high moral and ethical standards.

Heather's belief in the transformative power of community gardens is profound. She sees them as a means to rebuild lives and engage locals in their community. Beyond being an avid gardener, Heather is an educator, regularly conducting workshops on organic gardening. She has a knack for empowering Work-for-Dole clients and pensioners, using the garden as a tool for social engagement and skill-building. Her patience and

dedication have led many volunteers to regain their confidence, find employment, and become community leaders themselves.

Heather's impact extends beyond gardening. She connects people across cultural and generational divides, fostering a deep understanding of our ecosystem. Her efforts have made the garden a melting pot of social and economic backgrounds, working together for the greater

good. Heather's successful advocacy has even led to political recognition and action on social issues like homelessness.

As Heather prepares to relocate South with her husband, we reflect on her immense contributions. She's been more than a garden manager; she's been a mentor, a friend, and a champion for social justice in Cannington. Her departure is a loss for our community, but her legacy will continue to thrive in the garden she nurtured and in the lives she's touched. To you Heather, we say thank you for being a mentor, a friend and one of the hardest workers for social justice in the Cannington Community. God be with you always!

Dr Francis Ejones,
ADRA Regional Manager, WA



Read the full article at
adventistswa.com ► News

Sabbath School Sabbath

Valuing important things in life often means creating time for them, just as many of us do with people we love. In this spirit, I've been passionate about highlighting the value of Sabbath School. This led to the creation of Sabbath School Sabbath, a standout event this year, held on 23rd September. We were delighted to have Pr. Lyndell Peterson, the director of the Sabbath School department from the Australian Union Conference in Melbourne, join us for the day.

This inaugural event in the WA Conference calendar was the first of its kind in Australia, focusing on the importance of Sabbath School. Our goal is to maintain this momentum, underscoring Sabbath School's role as a key discipleship tool in our local churches.

The day was split into two sessions. The morning allowed each local church to creatively celebrate Sabbath School in their own way, from

discussing its history to sharing personal stories and testimonies of its impact on faith.

The afternoon featured a hybrid event at the Conference office in Welshpool. Lyndell provided practical training on preparing and facilitating engaging discussions during small group Sabbath School sessions.

A special thanks to churches like Manjimup, who delved into Sabbath School's history and had children share their experiences, and to North Perth for hosting Lyndell the morning.

Looking ahead to next year, we aim to build on this success. We've set 12 October for the next Sabbath School Sabbath.

Pr Obed Soire

Discipleship Ministries Team
Sabbath School/Church Health
North Perth Seventh-day Adventist Church



REPORTABLE CONDUCT SCHEME NOTICE

The Western Australia Reportable Conduct Scheme (the Scheme) applies to religious organisations from 1 January 2024, with the Ombudsman responsible for administering the Scheme. The Scheme requires the Western Australian (WA) Conference, in partnership with Adsafe, to notify the Ombudsman and investigate reportable allegations and reportable convictions involving:

- volunteers who provide services to children; and
- religious leaders such as pastors and possibly elders.

Reportable allegations under the Scheme are:

- sexual misconduct and physical assault against or in the presence of a child – someone under 18 years of age.
- significant neglect and emotional or psychological harm against a child.

Any allegation of this nature should be reported to the local pastor, WA Conference or Adsafe immediately.

It is important that volunteers who provide services to children and religious leaders such as elders are provided the Ombudsman's Information Sheet 7 so they can be aware of the Scheme and its impact on them from 1 January 2024. This information sheet can be accessed from your church pastor, church clerk and the Ombudsman website.

Further information on the Scheme can be found at www.ombudsman.wa.gov.au or by contacting the WA Conference (08) 9398 7222 and Adsafe (02) 9847 3488.



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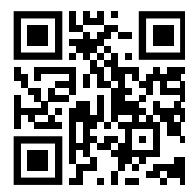
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