



Tasda

Transforming Tasmania with Jesus for Eternity

JUNE 2025

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Pr Rick Hergenhan

The early church in Acts 2:42–47 is a powerful model of what it means to live out the gospel of Christ. “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42, NIV). This was no casual faith; it was a deep, daily, Spirit-filled commitment to Christ and to one another.

These first believers shared their lives, their resources, and their purpose. They were unified in doctrine, consistent in worship, generous with their possessions, and joyful in fellowship. As a result, “the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved” (Acts 2:47).

For Seventh-day Adventists in Tasmania, this passage offers both inspiration and challenge. In a world marked by individualism, digital distractions, and growing secularism, are we still devoted like the early church? Does our faith go beyond Sabbath worship into everyday life—impacting our communities with hope, love, and truth?

The brief articles and pictures in this edition of the *TASDA* answer that question with a resounding yes! Our churches are taking the gospel message seriously and engaging with their communities according to the opportunities God has placed before them. We praise God that, by His Spirit,

He is active today just as He was in the early church.

Today, we are more than believers—we are a movement. Let’s continue in prayer, dig deeper into God’s Word, and build Christ-centered community. Let’s open our homes, share our blessings, and actively serve the towns in which we live. Tasmania may be small in population, but it can be mighty in mission.

May we, like the early church, live lives so filled with the Spirit, unity, and love that the gospel becomes irresistible—and God adds to His church daily in Tasmania.

SERVING LIKE JESUS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Brenton Luchow
Church Engagement Officer, ADRA Australia

“And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” – Micah 6:8 (NIV)

My first experience of serving in a meaningful capacity was in high school. The school I was attending provided an opportunity for senior students to participate in a mission trip to the Solomon Islands. This was the first time that I understood the difference between knowing about faith and putting it into action. It was this experience that stirred something within me, a deep belief in the value of serving that has remained with me since then.

I have been blessed with opportunities to serve in various ways since that first experience. I have travelled to communities across western NSW on a dozen or so StormCo trips. I have co-led service trips with Year 12 students to Vanuatu, and volunteered with various other groups, including ADRA. They've reinforced a simple but profound truth: when we serve others, God shows up and lives are changed, even our own.

Small acts of transformation

Throughout Australia, everyday acts of kindness are creating stories of transformation. These might be a home-cooked meal, a handwritten message, or a morning spent cleaning up a yard. Each simple act, when offered with love, becomes a seed of hope.

ADRA's purpose is to serve humanity so all may live as God intended. This is echoed through Jesus' own words: *“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full”* (John 10:10, NIV). This purpose is not ADRA's alone – it belongs to all of us. Local churches, in collaboration with ADRA, have a unique opportunity to bring Justice, Compassion, and Love into their communities, becoming the hands and feet of Jesus.

In Cannington, WA, a community garden has become a sanctuary. Volunteers like Heather spent years cultivating not only vegetables but connection and community.¹ Chris, one of the garden's volunteers, first came for the free bread. He kept coming back to lend a hand, finding a place to belong. Through the garden, he reconnected with his estranged wife Kylie. Their time at the garden brought healing and ultimately led to baptism and renewed marriage vows, both a spiritual and personal rebirth rooted in community service.²

The “SouperVan” in Wauchope, NSW, began by handing out soup and buns to the community. Over time, it grew into a lifeline through the distribution of meals, blankets, and even pet food to those in crisis. Behind the scenes, church members offered conversation, prayer,

and friendship. What started with a meal became a ministry of belonging within the community.³

In Victoria, the opening of ADRA's Bairnsdale Community Food Pantry and the new Frankston Op Shop reflect how churches and ADRA can work together to meet growing community needs. These spaces are more than centres offering a service; they are places of welcome, connection, and hope.⁴

Stronger together

Stories like this show what's possible when churches serve their community with compassion. This practical demonstration of love is a powerful expression of the gospel. Your church brings presence, purpose, and people. ADRA has the depth of knowledge and a global network bringing decades of experience in disaster response and community development. Through collaboration and drawing on the combined strengths of the local church and ADRA, volunteers can participate in life-changing service opportunities, bringing hope to their communities.

³ Wauchope church ministry expands with ADRA partnership, Adventist Record, <https://record.adventistchurch.com/2024/08/19/wauchope-church-ministry-expands-with-adra-partnership>

⁴ New ADRA Projects Expand Community Support in Victoria, ADRA News Winter 2025, <https://www.adra.org.au/wp-content/uploads/ADRA-News-Winter-25-WEB.pdf>

¹ Heather Stewart Johnson Retires from ADRA Cannington Garden, Seventh-day Adventist Church WA Conference, <https://www.wa.adventist.org.au/news/heatherstewartjohnsonretires>

² Friendships Bloom in ADRA's Community Gardens, ADRA Australia, <https://www.adra.org.au/friendships-bloom-in-adras-community-gardens>



BECOME AN ADRA CHAMPION!

Being an ADRA Champion is a simple, powerful way to change lives—starting right from your local church. Whether you love sharing from the front or prefer working behind the scenes, we'll support you with everything you need.

**INTERESTED? CONTACT US ON 1800 242 372
OR EMAIL INFO@ADRA.ORG.AU**

Faith in action

In Matthew 25, Jesus says, *“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in... I needed clothes and you clothed me”* (Matthew 25:35–36, NIV). Through acts of service, we demonstrate the life-changing power of Jesus and point others to Him. Local churches and ADRA are meeting real needs, restoring dignity, and opening hearts to Jesus. It might look like a Sabbath School class writing cards of encouragement for neighbours in need; perhaps it's the youth group leading a car wash fundraiser for a local ADRA project; or maybe it's a church providing a food relief service one day a week. Each of these small acts, delivered with love, becomes part of a larger story of faith in action.

You don't need a big team or perfect plans. You just need the willingness to say: *We're here. How can we help?*

It's not difficult to identify the needs in our community. The challenge is taking

the next step, turning compassion into action. This is where transformation begins. In James, we're reminded that, *“Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead”* (James 2:17, NIV). This is a challenge for us to not only believe, but to demonstrate through our actions what we believe. Through serving, we represent the love of Jesus in a powerful and relevant way. Through our actions we demonstrate to those around us that the gospel is not just something we speak about, it's active and alive. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus reminds us: *“You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven”* (Matthew 5:14–16, NIV).

Change starts with you

Maybe you've sensed a quiet prompting, a gentle nudge from the Holy Spirit, that your church could do more to reach out to those who need it most in your community. Maybe you're the one to help make it happen. You already have what it takes. A heart to serve. A community in need. And a God who empowers

everyday people to do remarkable things.

Start a conversation with your church about what's possible. When we serve the way Jesus did, lives are changed, ours included.

If you'd like to know more about starting an ADRA project with your church to serve the community, or are interested in becoming an ADRA Champion, speak to your Conference ADRA Director or email us at info@adra.org.au. We'd love to chat with you!

Brenton Luchow is the Church Engagement Officer at ADRA Australia. During the week, he works with ADRA Champions in local churches, supporting and equipping them to inspire their congregations. In his spare time, you'll find him baking sourdough, planning his next trip, and hanging out with his wife, Lisa, and their teenage daughter, Harper. He lives on the beautiful Central Coast of NSW.

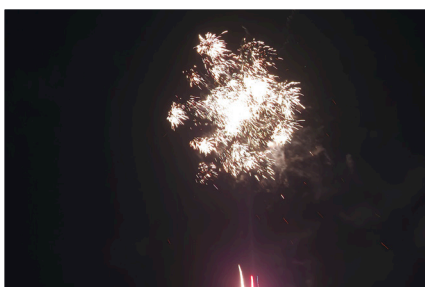
LAUNCESTON CHURCH NEWS

Launceston's Cracker Night Goes Off with a Bang!

May 24 saw the second instalment of what is hoped to become an annual Launceston Church social event. Families gathered together, kept warm by a large bonfire provided by a generous local farmer who had allowed the church to use his paddock.

Pr David Maxwell and his wife Mary not only provided the night's entertainment with a fireworks display but also supplied a fine array of snacks, encouraging everyone to linger and enjoy the social time. A small entry fee was charged, with the proceeds donated to the local Pathfinders and the PNG Fly 'n' Build.

This year, the children in attendance were offered the special treat of lighting a couple of firecrackers after the main show—under the strict guidance of Pr David—creating memories that will stay with them for life.



Mother's Day Service

Launceston Church celebrated Mother's Day on Sabbath, May 10, inclusively honouring all women. Half a dozen women were pleasantly surprised to be honoured publicly with a gift and words of affirmation, and every female received a bookmark, hand-painted by our worship coordinator, Llevella Reid, as they left the service.

The program began with the congregation welcomed into 'God's living room,' where the front of the church had its usual furniture removed. In its place were a couch, armchairs, a rug, and coffee tables. Specimen vases of flowers and tea light candles gave an inviting Mother's Day feel.

The theme of the day was, "How do you see Jesus in your mother?" Amongst congregational singing, fun video clips, and a personal montage of Launie kids talking about their mums, guests were invited to join Wendy on the couch to share about their mothers. Harley Stanton shared a poem written by his mother and often recited to them. Elyse Tierney honoured her mother by writing a poem about her.

Some from the Mini Youth class courageously agreed to share on the couch and paid beautiful tributes to their mothers. And finally, the McKay siblings—Rod, Margaret, and Doug—shared their individual memories of their beloved mum while seated on the couch.

Throughout the service, God was seen more clearly through the lives of the women who were honoured and remembered.

Launceston Adventurers

This year, Launceston Adventurers went to Heritage Forest to complete the Cyclist 1 and 2 awards, as well as the Bikes and Trikes award. This took place on March 29. Most of our club managed the eight-kilometre ride required to achieve the Cyclist 2 award. We also learned how to take care of our bikes.



April proved to be a very busy month as we worked on the Archery award. We learned about the different components of the bow and arrow. The children especially enjoyed shooting arrows at the targets—particularly when balloons were attached to the boards. There are definitely some budding archers among our group! Some of our teachers turned out to be excellent archers too!



We also completed the Fitness award, testing our abilities with a variety of fun challenges. The Sunbeams learned about our ANZACs while making ANZAC biscuits. As a club, we marched in the ANZAC Day parade, and Sarah and Ali placed a wreath at the cenotaph.



In May, the Adventurers had fun at our statewide Fun Day. We enjoyed completing various awards and activities. The highlight for many was the catapult and the hayrides.

We also joined our Pathfinder club for a visit to Capcom Go at the QVMAG Museum, where we learned about how humans landed on the moon.



Launceston Church Trivia Night

What is the only bird that can fly backwards?

On Saturday evening, May 31, Launceston Church hosted its biannual Trivia Night. Held in the TRAC, the event was open to the wider community and included a fundraising component to support the upcoming mission trip to Papua New Guinea, shared with the Launceston Pathfinder Club.

Quizmaster Scott Blockley returned with a variety of fascinating and challenging questions that catered to both young and old. From music trivia to sports, history to general world knowledge, teams scrambled for answers in hopes of topping the leaderboard.

Pathfinders and their families ran a snack canteen, and there was a silent auction featuring donated items ranging from artworks and sourdough treats to cleaning products.

Congratulations to the winning team, the "Outside Cats"!

The final amount raised was \$1,477.00.

Thank you to all who supported and attended the event. We look forward to seeing you in two years for the next Trivia Night!



Answer to the question above: Hummingbird



Launceston Church Easter Service

Launceston Church recently celebrated its annual Easter service.

The program opened with a video of children answering questions about Jesus—His time on earth and why He died on the cross. Their innocence and honesty were both delightful and refreshing.

Lawson Reid introduced the theme that Jesus isn't written into our story, but rather our story is written into His. The program explored the Cross through the eyes of Jesus' father and mother, Peter, and the thief on the cross.

Russ Hendra portrayed Joseph, reflecting on the young boy Jesus and how, as a father, he regretted allowing his son to name the lamb He had raised over the past year—now destined to be killed.

Gwen Espie portrayed Mary, recalling the birth, death, and purpose of the man who was her son. After an emotional journey and deep questioning of the meaning and magnitude of His life, she finally understood: *My son... is my Saviour!*

There was a modern interpretation of a conversation between Jesus and Peter, set in an office environment, offering a fresh perspective on Peter's bravado and his ultimate realization of Jesus' mission when He was arrested and taken away.

Finally, Wendy Stanton presented the thief on the cross. Though his time had come, it was his Best Day! His crimes were erased. He was set free—from ugliness to beauty. The message shared was: *Never doubt*

the great mercy of Jesus. Stretch out your empty hands in faith and give Him your weary heart. Jesus is ready to answer.

The program climaxed with the musical item Nail-Scarred Hands, performed by Cameron Rogers, Ken Stanton, and Llevella Reid.

It was an emotional and sobering day, contemplating and discovering the depths of our Father's love.



Oasis Breakfast

Each Sabbath at Launceston Church, we have a Women's Sabbath School called Oasis. The hope is that this time serves as an oasis in the midst of life's busyness—giving us time as women to come together and study God's Word.

On Sabbath, May 24, our Oasis group was invited to our leader Wendy Stanton's home. Thirteen of us enjoyed her warm hospitality—a wonderful buffet brunch—while chatting and getting to know each other on a deeper level.

After being filled physically, we went on to be filled spiritually as we continued our study in the book of Matthew, chapter 11.

It was a beautiful time together around the warmth of the fire, sharing our thoughts and reflecting on how the scriptures we had just read impacted us. At times (as usual), we wandered a little off course, but it's always a blessing, and we 'walk' away with much to consider.

After reading and discussion, we shared prayer requests and then prayed together. What a beautiful way to spend a few hours on a Sabbath.

GLENORCHY CHURCH NEWS

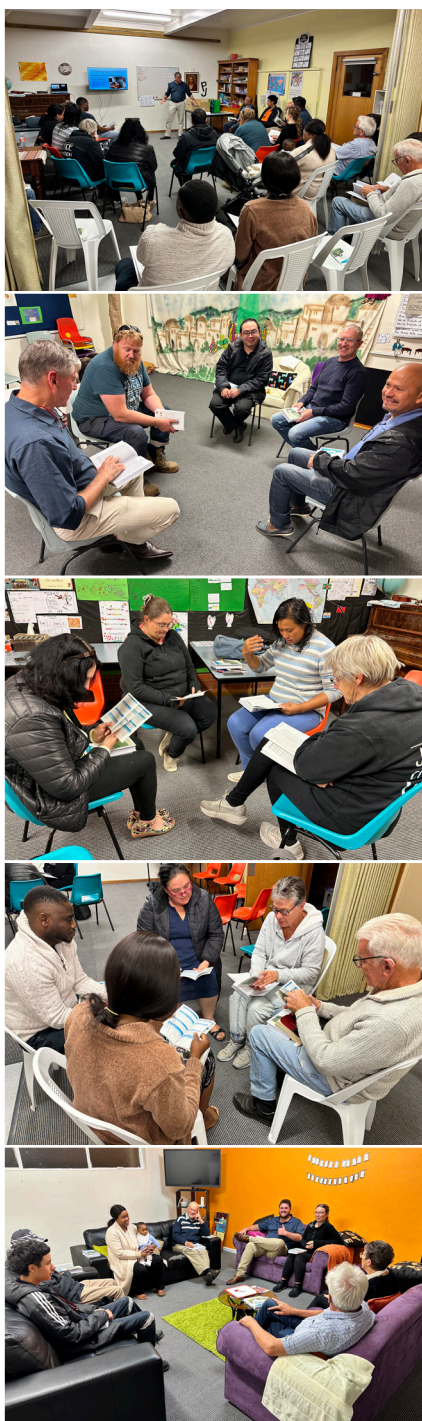
Glenorchy Beach Social

On a beautiful autumn day, members of the Glenorchy Church gathered for a relaxed and joyful beach picnic social. The event was filled with laughter, good food, and light-hearted games. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect, build community, and simply enjoy each other's company in a beautiful setting.



Glenorchy World Changers Bible Training

The Glenorchy Church was blessed to host the World Changers Bible Training with special guest Pastor Nick Kross. Drawing from his rich experience and insight, Pastor Nick equipped attendees with tools and encouragement for sharing their faith. Participants received a free Bible and study guides, empowering them to connect with people in the community.



Glenorchy and Rosny Youth and Family Social

The Glenorchy youth teed off for a fun-filled social at Putters Mini Golf! It was a night of laughter and friendly competition. With every swing and smile, connections grew stronger—proving once again that people who play together, stay together. It was a hole-in-one kind of evening!



Glenorchy Social

The Glenorchy Church Games and Pancake Night was a joyful, multi-generational gathering filled with worship, laughter, and connection. The evening began with uplifting worship songs led by the cheerful ukulele band and heartfelt testimonies, creating a beautiful atmosphere of faith and encouragement. The fun continued with a torch-lit treasure hunt and lively indoor games. The night was topped off with stacks of delicious pancakes.



Glenorchy & Margate Mother's Day Flowers to the Community

To celebrate Mother's Day this year, members of the Glenorchy and Margate churches shared love and kindness with their communities. Red and pink carnations were thoughtfully prepared and delivered door to door to mothers living near the churches. The flowers were warmly received, with many deeply touched by the gesture—especially those living alone or far from family. The simple act of care brought much joy and connection.



MARGATE CHURCH NEWS

Margate Multicultural Dinner

The Margate Multicultural Social was a vibrant celebration of cultural diversity within the church community. Attendees enjoyed a delicious array of food platters representing cuisines from around the world, each dish sharing a story of heritage and hospitality. The evening was filled with games, lively conversations, and musical items. It was a joyful night of unity, connection, and shared celebration.



Margate Children's Agape Meal

The Margate Children's Agape Feast, lovingly organised by Lara, was a memorable event for kids and families from the church and community. The night began with joyful singing and the story of Jesus' sacrifice. Families then gathered around beautifully set tables to share an agape meal of fruit, flatbread, and other tasty treats. It was a beautiful way to worship together and reflect on Jesus' great love for us.



Margate Youth and Family Afternoons

Once a month, the Margate Church comes together for Youth and Family Afternoons—a lively gathering filled with lunch, songs, Bible games, and a devotional time. These afternoons offer a fun and engaging way to explore Scripture, deepen faith, and spark meaningful conversations. It has been a wonderful opportunity for all ages to connect, learn, and grow together as a church family.



ROSNY CHURCH NEWS

Fun and Fellowship at Rosny Church Trivia Night

On Saturday night, April 12, Rosny Church was buzzing with energy, and team spirit during our Trivia Night! The event was organised by the Rosny Church deaconess team and brought together about 50 people of all ages for a night of fun and friendly competition.

The theme for the night was sports, and many came dressed in their favourite team colours and sportswear.

Six teams, each with 6–8 members, competed in a variety of trivia rounds covering topics like science, music, history,

sports, and the Bible. Quizmasters Anna Bocchino and Joanna Stollenmaier did a fantastic job of keeping everyone on their toes with a great mix of questions and challenges.

But it wasn't just about knowing the right answers! Teams also earned bonus points for their enthusiasm—singing, dancing, team chants, and special challenges all added to the fun.

The winning team of the night, FBI Surveillance Van, impressed everyone with their spirit and smarts and were rewarded

with custom-made mugs to celebrate their victory.

Takaia and Luigi Bocchino served up a delicious dinner of freshly cooked homemade pizza, island donuts, salad, and fresh fruit. There was even a kids' club for the younger children so the adults could enjoy the quiz.

It was a fantastic evening of food, laughter, teamwork, and connection. A big thank you to everyone who helped organise and run the night—and to all who came and made it such a memorable event.



Pathfinder Uniforms for PNG

The PNG mission would be very appreciative of any second-hand Pathfinder and Adventurers uniforms. A single Pathfinder uniform costs more than a week's wages for PNG locals, a cost that is simply unattainable for some.

If you have any old uniforms that are no longer needed, please consider donating them to the Conference Office, or to one of the volunteers leaving on the PNG mission trip. All donations of uniforms must be **received by June 28**. For more information, please contact **Sarah Blockley 0400 547 669**.



NORTH WEST CHURCH NEWS



“North West Regional in Its Fourth Year”

For the past four years, the churches of the North West have come together two or three times a year for Regionals—worshipping, singing, and praising God together. At past Regionals, we have been blessed with many guest speakers who brought encouragement, revival, and reformation.

This year's Regional was held on March 22, with our Division President, Pr Glen Townend (SPD President), and his wife, Pam. Upon returning home, Pr Glen kindly shared his reflections with us via email about his experience on this wonderful Sabbath:

“Pam and I had an excellent Sabbath with you yesterday. We were warmly welcomed by everyone we met. I hope that is how you welcome all who come to your local church. It was great to see people gathering and sharing all through the day. The lunch was healthy and nutritious, and I have never had so many good soup options to choose from—I wish I could have tried them all.

Thank you to the local pastors and Conference leaders for your coordination.

The Sabbath School, worship, and afternoon meeting focused on God's

mission for the church, developing faith, and breaking down the barriers that prevent us from reaching others. I was blessed by all the interactions.

It was great to have a good Bible discussion, great puppets for the children (and adults), and wonderful music to praise God. So many people put in efforts with visuals, sound, set-up, and leading out in the program. Thank you for such a great day.

I hope you get a good offering for Tasmanian evangelism and support for the Madang Mission trip.”



NORTH WEST CHURCH NEWS



Mother's Day Classic at Stanley

On Mother's Day this year, some of the mothers and their children from Burnie Church participated in the Mother's Day Classic at Stanley—a walk and run event. Held in Stanley on the North West Coast, this community event aimed to raise funds and awareness for breast and ovarian cancer research.

In 2024, the National Breast Cancer Foundation raised over \$1.2 million for the Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation.

The mothers and their children from Burnie Church took on the challenge by dressing in pink and choosing to walk or run one of the two available distances: the 2.5 km or 5 km tracks, which included sections along the beach.

The event also served as a meaningful outreach opportunity for the mothers of Burnie Church, helping them connect with and build relationships within the local community.



Neighbourhood Breakfast Day

On a bright, beautiful spring Sunday morning in March, Burnie Church set out tables, chairs, and barbecues on the front lawn, along with an arts and crafts table. Adding to the cheerful atmosphere was the church's youthful soloist, Charlie Bobongie, singing some old-time favourites into the spring air.

It was the introduction of Neighbourhood Breakfast Day—a warm and welcoming initiative to connect with the community. Passersby couldn't help but stop and wonder about "what a peculiar group of people" (Deut. 14:2, KJV).

Children enjoyed face painting and kite making, while church members embraced the opportunity to build connections with their neighbours.

Inspired by their local council, Burnie Church hosted Neighbourhood Breakfast Day as a way for residents to gather, enjoy a meal together, and foster a sense of connection and belonging. It became a time for friendly conversation, shared stories, and building relationships within the community.



International Food Night

This was the second year that Burnie Church has organised an International Food Night as an outreach to the community. On May 31, 80 people filled the church hall—14 from the local community, and 4 who attended after seeing the event advertised on Facebook.

A variety of cultural cuisines from Asia, India, the Pacific Islands, Europe, and Australia were on display, representing the multicultural membership of Burnie Church, as well as contributions from members of other North West churches who helped with cooking on the night.

Food has always been an essential part of every culture. It's more than just a means of sustenance—it's a way of expressing identity, connecting with others, and passing on rich cultural heritage and values.

Wikipedia describes this kind of event as Fusion Cuisine:

"Fusion cuisine is a cuisine that combines elements of different culinary traditions that originate from different countries, regions, or cultures."

Burnie Church is using the diverse cultural backgrounds within its congregation as a form of "fusion" to reach out to the community—building relationships, and ultimately, sharing Jesus with them.



NORTH WEST CHURCH NEWS



'Prayer as an Outreach'

Ellen G. White reminds us in *Steps to Christ*, p. 93, that:

"Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. Not that it is necessary in order to make known to God what we are, but in order to enable us to receive Him. Prayer does not bring God down to us, but brings us up to Him."

Burnie Church, like all of us, understands how important prayer is—especially in the times we live in today. That's why Burnie Church has deliberately made 2025 a year focused on prayer—not only for the church family but also as an outreach to the community.

Burnie Church's prayer coordinator, Marita Maywald, organised a special early morning prayer gathering this month at 5:30 am. In addition, the church is making use of WhatsApp, where Marita keeps members informed of special prayer requests.

From Monday to Friday, for 30 minutes each day, appointed church members have opened the church to the community—letting people know that Burnie Church is open for prayer. Together, they pray for one another and for the needs of the community.

Burnie Church has also committed to meeting on the first Sabbath of every month before Sabbath School begins, to spend meaningful time together in prayer.

While some churches on the mainland have discontinued their Wednesday night prayer meetings, Burnie Church members continue to gather, seeking a fresh supply of strength from the Father.

"Our heavenly Father waits to bestow upon us the fulness of His blessing. It is our privilege to drink largely at the fountain of boundless love."—*Steps to Christ*, p. 94



Harvest Festival

In April this year, Burnie Church celebrated the Harvest Festival on Sabbath, with the theme: *"The Lord of the Harvest."*

Harvest Festival marks the time when crops are gathered and the hard work of farming pays off. It is a time to give God praise and thanks for His blessings and provision over the crops and food, and to give back to those who need it most.

In celebrating the Harvest Festival, Burnie Church chose to support children in need at the Adventist International School in Timor Leste. An auction was held on Saturday evening after Sabbath, accompanied by a lovely meal for church members from the North West and members of the local community who attended.



Bidding was both fierce and fun, with plenty of banter and laughter as people competed for items such as corn, apples, homemade jams, pumpkins, tomatoes, eggs, potatoes, beans, pears, bread, onions, eggplants, cabbages, capsicums, bananas, lemons, carrots, and much more.

Other items up for auction included grazing boards, handmade bookmarks and greeting cards, flowers and pot plants, and rock door stoppers.

A big thank you to Stuart Barons and Mark Redman, who served as our auctioneers for the evening, and to everyone who attended.

We were blessed to raise \$3,500 for the children at the Adventist International School in Timor Leste. Praise God, for He is truly *"The Lord of the Harvest."*

Easter Visit with Brenda Walsh

Brenda Walsh, currently the president of Brenda Walsh Ministries, blessed Burnie Church and its visitors as the guest speaker on the Sabbath of the Easter weekend.

Church members from across the North West, along with people from the local community, gathered at Burnie Church to hear Brenda share her personal experiences of how God placed her in the right moments to lead others to become genuine Christians and to surrender their will to Jesus.

Her children's stories were dynamic and engaging, captivating the young ones with Christ-centred lessons.

In the afternoon, Brenda played the piano while inviting requests for favourite songs from both children and adults, leading the congregation in a joyful time of singing.

It was a blessed Sabbath, reflecting on and celebrating the death and resurrection of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.



TASSIE YOUTH

Adventurer Fun Day

On Sunday, May 4, laughter, learning, and lively activity filled the air at Adventurer Fun Day—a joyful celebration designed especially for our Adventurer-aged kids and their families. The day was packed with exciting stations that offered a mix of hands-on learning and energetic fun.

Children explored the wonders of colours, discovered how to safely build a campfire, and enjoyed cuddles and curiosity at a delightful petting zoo. Alongside these activities were several fun games that kept everyone smiling and moving.

No one went hungry, with food stalls serving up tasty burgers, refreshing ice creams, and the always-popular freeze-dried Skittles—a hit with kids and adults alike!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the Adventurer leaders, staff, parents, churches, and families who supported their local Adventurer clubs and helped make the day so special for the children. Your encouragement and involvement make all the difference in their growth and journey. May God continue to bless you in your ministry through our Adventurer clubs.

We can't wait for next year—for more fun, faith, and friendship!



Victoria Pathfinders Camporee: “Look Up and Live”

From March 7–10, the rolling hills of Caveat, Victoria, echoed with songs, laughter, and the spirit of adventure as around 700 Pathfinders gathered for the much-anticipated Victoria Pathfinders Camporee. Among them were approximately 60 Pathfinders from Tasmania, proudly representing the Mildura, Carrum Downs, and Warragul clubs.

The theme of the weekend, “Look Up and Live,” inspired both the spiritual and physical journey of the campers. Guest speakers Pastor Chris Stanley and World Pathfinder Director Busi Khumalo delivered powerful, heartfelt messages that challenged and encouraged every Pathfinder to grow deeper in faith and purpose.

The camporee was filled with fun activities, meaningful worship, and the chance to build new connections. For many, making new friends and sharing the experience with other Pathfinders from across Victoria was a true highlight.

We're incredibly thankful for the opportunity to be part of such a special event and for the great leaders in our Tasmanian Pathfinder Clubs. Thank you to our churches and families that supported our Camporee in Victoria.

We look forward to the next time we can gather again under the stars, united in faith and friendship at the Australian Camporee in January 2027.



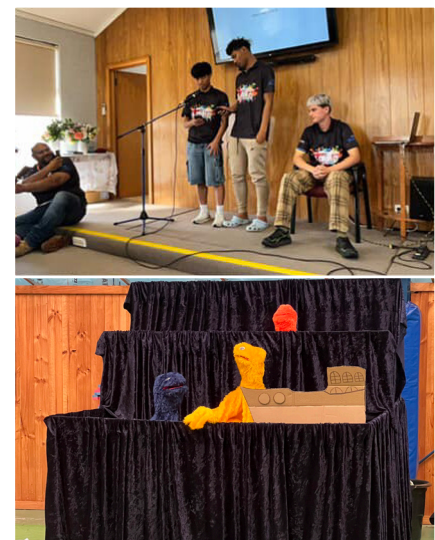
StormCo Scottsdale: A Week of Service, Smiles, and Sharing God's Love

During the first week of the April school holidays, 10 young people came together in Scottsdale to take part in StormCo—a mission initiative all about serving others and showing God's love through action.

These dedicated youth gave up a week of their holidays to make a real difference in the community. They ran a vibrant Kidz Club, attracting up to 30 energetic children each day for games, crafts, puppetry, stories, and fun. They also visited the local nursing home, where they played games, sang songs, and brought joy to the residents through heartfelt conversations and simple companionship.

Another highlight of the week was working together on Scottsdale Church's prayer garden, helping to refresh and beautify the space for future reflection and connection with God.

The week wrapped up with the team leading out in the Easter church service, sharing through puppets, testimonies, and a skit that offered thoughtful reflections on Christ's death and resurrection.



TASSIE YOUTH

A huge thank you goes to the young people who gave their time to serve, to Alex who volunteered as a leader, and to the Scottsdale Church—especially Vicki—who graciously hosted the team and supported the mission every step of the way.

It was a week full of growth, service, and unforgettable memories—living proof that young people can make a powerful impact when they choose to put their Faith in Action and serve.



Youth Camp May 23–25: Faith in Action

From May 23–25, a group of passionate young people gathered for a powerful and uplifting Youth Camp weekend focused on putting faith into action. Held in a beautiful natural setting, the camp was filled with worship, workshops, games, and deep spiritual reflection.

Our guest speaker, Cooper Redman, a third-year theology student from Avondale University, shared inspiring messages from the life of Nehemiah,



encouraging us to rise up, stay focused, and live out our calling with courage and commitment.

The weekend was packed with fun and meaningful activities, including music jam sessions, an exciting online scavenger hunt using GooseChase, and practical workshops that helped us tackle real issues like distraction, apathy, and how to engage more actively in our local church's mission. One key takeaway was learning how we can make a difference by connecting with our local church

boards and business meetings to help bring our ideas to life.

We wrapped up the weekend with a team challenge, where we learned to appreciate each other's gifts and work together to complete a series of fun, fast-paced tasks.

A big thank you to the small but vibrant group who attended. The chance to form new friendships and grow closer to God made it a truly special time we won't soon forget. And remember to follow your calling and put your **Faith in Action!**



NORTH WEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Morgan Smith - Principal

North West Christian School at the North West Tasmania Futsal Titles 2025

On May 8, students from Years 3 to 10 represented North West Christian School at the North West Tasmania Futsal Titles. We are proud of all our students who took part, giving their best effort and showing great teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the day. Both our Under 10 and Under 12 boys' teams played exceptionally well, making it through to the semi-finals. Our Under 10 girls' team showed impressive determination and resilience. Several students have also been selected to attend the National Schools Championships in Brisbane later this year—an exciting opportunity and well-deserved recognition of their efforts. Thank you to the parents who came along to support their children on the day. The tournament was a great experience for all involved—friendships were strengthened, new opportunities embraced, and plenty of memories made.



Week of Spiritual Emphasis: Surrounded

Our Week of Spiritual Emphasis was a powerful and memorable time at North West Christian School, centred around the theme Surrounded. The week provided students, families, and staff alike with the opportunity to pause, reflect, and connect more deeply with God.

We were blessed to welcome Gerrard Price, Chaplain Coordinator from Northpine Christian College in Queensland, as our guest speaker. Gerrard's dynamic and passionate approach to sharing the love of Jesus deeply resonated with our students across all year levels. His messages were engaging, heartfelt, and full of practical insights about God's presence in our lives—even when we feel alone or overwhelmed.

Throughout the week, the atmosphere across the school was spiritually uplifting. Many students responded positively to the messages, with a significant number expressing a desire to begin Bible studies or baptismal preparation. It has been encouraging to see hearts opened and lives touched by God's Spirit.

We thank Gerrard for his ministry, and we praise God for the decisions made and the seeds planted. Our school community continues to grow not just in number, but in faith and purpose—truly surrounded by God's love.

North West Christian School Celebrates 130 Enrolments Milestone

North West Christian School is excited to celebrate a significant milestone in our school's journey—reaching 130 student enrolments. This growth is a testament to the commitment of our dedicated staff, the trust of our families, and the vibrant, Christ-centred learning community we continue to build together.

Over the past five years, North West Christian School has seen steady and purposeful growth. Our focus on academic excellence, student wellbeing, and spiritual development has resonated with families seeking a nurturing and values-driven environment for their children.

Each new enrolment represents a precious life joining a school that seeks to reveal Jesus and live out our values of Respect, Integrity, Service, and Excellence. As we welcome new students into our classrooms, we are reminded of the privilege and responsibility we carry as Christian educators.

We thank our school community for their ongoing support and trust, and we praise God for His guidance and provision. With continued growth on the horizon and strategic plans in place, the future is bright at North West Christian School.





HILLIARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Elizabeth Chaplin - Principal

Walking Together: Celebrating Reconciliation Week

Reconciliation Week was a vibrant and deeply meaningful time for our Hilliard school community, marked by reflection, unity, and shared purpose. With colour, culture, and connection at its heart, the week reminded us all of the ongoing journey toward truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.

A highlight of the week was our Reconciliation Bridge Walk and community gathering in the park. Students walked side by side, proudly wearing the colours of the Aboriginal flag — red, yellow, and black — as a visual expression of solidarity and respect. The event continued with games, face painting, and a much-enjoyed sausage sizzle, creating space for community connection and celebration.

Throughout the week, students engaged in thoughtful classroom activities that helped them explore the theme of reconciliation in meaningful and age-appropriate ways. From storytelling and art to discussion and inquiry, these lessons invited students to consider their role in building a more just and inclusive future.

A particularly powerful element of the week was the yarning circles, which provided a culturally respectful space for listening, sharing, and learning. These sessions offered a moment to pause and connect more deeply with the stories, experiences, and wisdom of First Nations people.

We are grateful to everyone who helped bring the week to life — from those who

cooked and coordinated to those who walked, listened, and supported. The strength of our community was evident in every detail.

Importantly, the week was not a standalone event. It forms part of our school's ongoing commitment to reconciliation. We continue to develop our Reconciliation Action Plan in partnership with local Indigenous community members, families, staff, and students, with the goal of fostering a culture grounded in genuine respect and shared responsibility.

As we reflect on the message of reconciliation, we draw inspiration from the words in 2 Corinthians 5:18:

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation."

This is more than a message for a single week — it's a calling we carry every day.

