

God speaks to us
Every day and in every way
through His Creation

Photo: Rosaleen Hawkesbury River early morning

In a State of Prayer



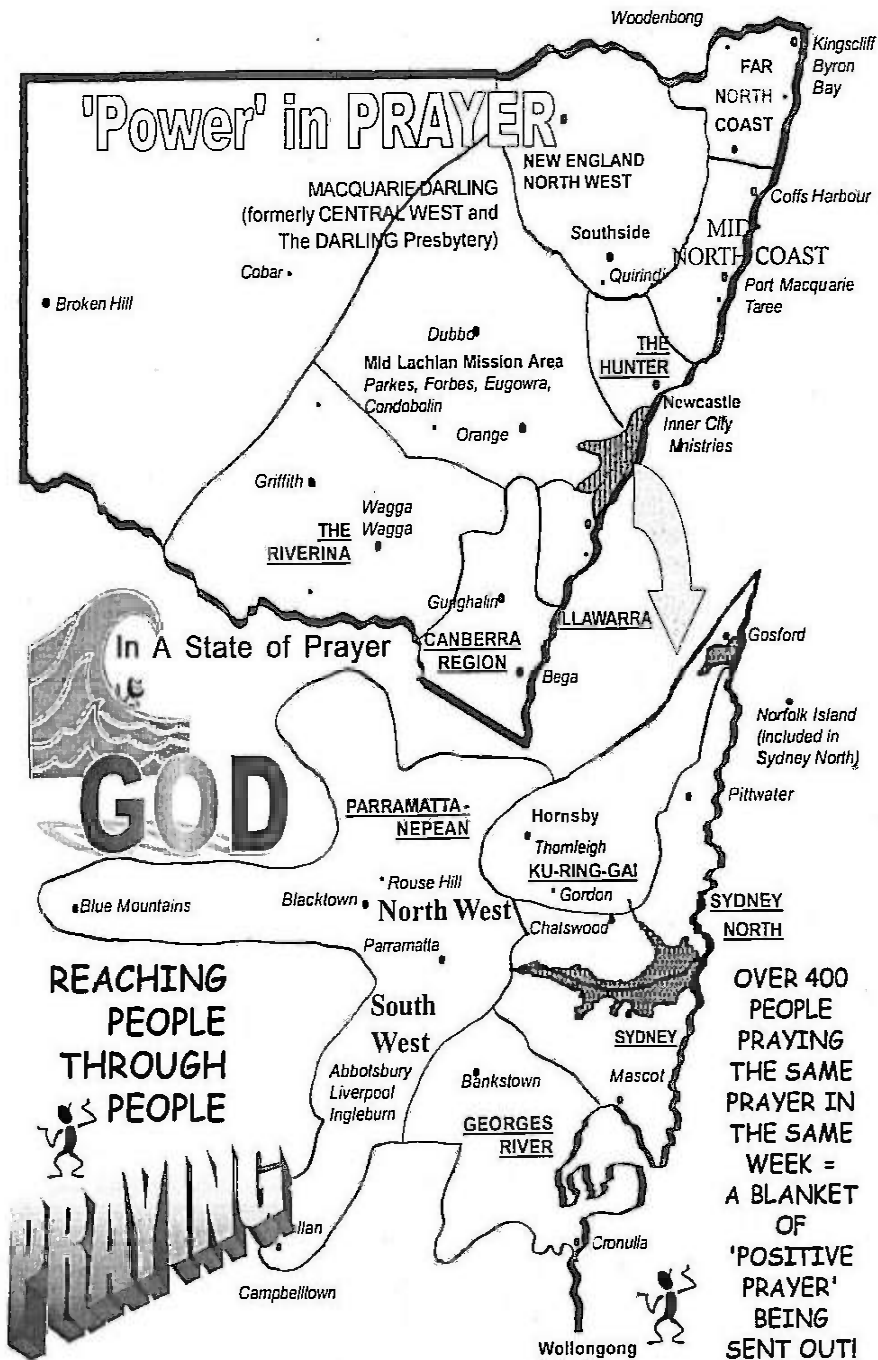
Volume 26 —Number 4 2010

JULY  AUGUST

ALERT

The deadline for the
September October Edition is
Tuesday 27th July 2010
Please send your prayer requests in by
this date

AUSTRALIA POST PRINT POST PP255003/01678
The Uniting Church in Australia Board of Mission NSW Synod



From Rosaleen

The train purrs on, not a sound within... Outside a vista of shining water meets the eye. The pudding basin mountains are silhouetted against a pale sky dotted with myriads of clouds.

As I watch, the sun breaks through casting a golden pathway through the glimmering expanse of water lighting up the surrounding clouds with a golden light.

Boats are silhouetted against this shiny scene. Not a movement in sight, even the birds are seemingly still asleep. The peacefulness of the scene is felt as we travel further.

Nature in its splendour, a blessing to all who venture past.

We travel further up the mountain side – another waterway meets the eye. Clouds here, have seemingly lost their way and drift lazily over the rippled water. Misty cottonwool shapes are being lit up with golden light as the sun rises here too. Still no movement – homes are dotted here and there on the far side of the water, but no sign of life, all is peaceful in this sleepy hollow. The train rumbles on, we hear the toot of the horn as we enter a tunnel hewed through the mountainside. A Marina comes into view. Lots of boats moored here, but still no sign of life. A peaceful scene.

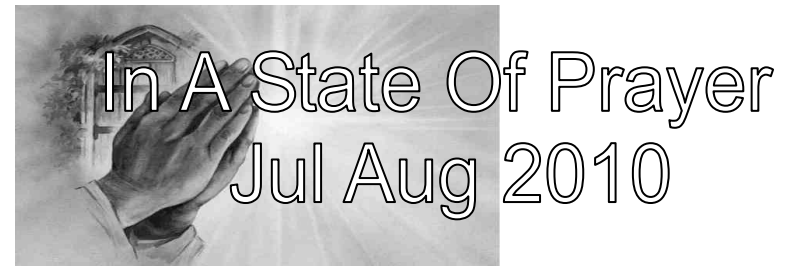
This is my last trip in to the city to work with the Board of Mission. It has been a happy and blessed 10 years and I thank all who have supported me. I will miss the people here, but I look forward to what God has ahead for me. I have been writing Meditations and helps for people in need and illustrating these with my photographs and paintings and I will be able to put more time into these things. Please pray for God's guidance for me.

Jasmine, my granddaughter, who is studying Communications, has helped with IASOP before and she is filling in for a month before travelling overseas. Pray for her also.

Thank you again for your support with In A State of Prayer. Grace and Peace to all.

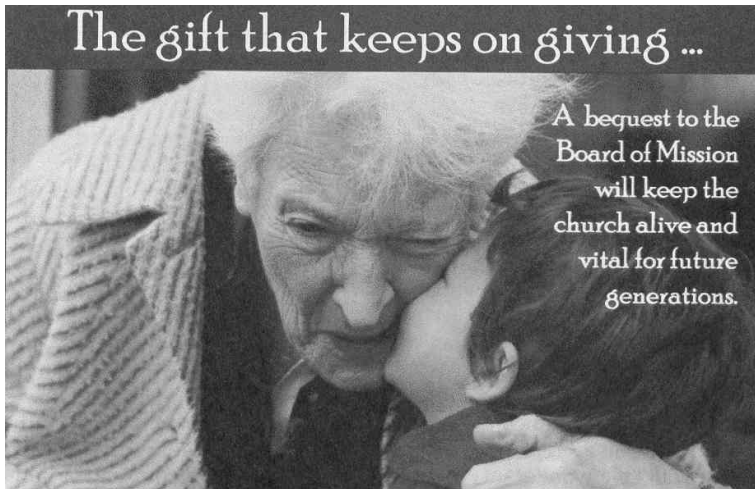
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To receive an information brochure, please call Sue Willgoss on 02 8267 4387 Email suew@nsw.uca.org.au or write to the Board of Mission, PO Box A2178, Sydney South NSW 1235

Farewell Rosaleen

Prayer warrior, super fast typist and leader in reflective relaxation are just some of the gifts which Rosaleen Edwards brought to the Board of Mission. So it is with some sense of sadness that we farewell Rosaleen who resigned her position with the Board of Mission this month. Rosaleen has worked for the Board in a number of capacities over the years. Initially, her appointment was as Administrative Assistant to the Evangelism and Cross Cultural Consultants. Latterly, Rosaleen was responsible for the production of In A State of Prayer and this publication has proved a helpful and inspiring resource for many faithful prayer partners in the Uniting Church.

The staff of the Board have been so blessed in many ways as Rosaleen shared her God-given gifts, some readers may not be aware that Rosaleen has been responsible for the design of our Easter Thank Offering Envelope and many of us have benefited from her phials of oils to help ward off those nasty viruses.

Rosaleen's faith and trust in her mighty Saviour has been an inspiration and challenge to all those who worked with her over the years and we pray that God will continue to richly bless her in the days ahead.

We are thankful to Jasmine, Rosaleen's granddaughter, who has helped us produce this month's edition.

As we say goodbye to Rosaleen, the Board is about to undergo some changes. The offices on the 9th floor are to be renovated to incorporate the staff of the Board of Education so visitors will discover a slightly different layout even though the Board of Mission remains on the 9th floor.

Some of you may also be aware that the Synod has asked the Boards of Mission and Education to work towards realignment with a timeline in place for this to be finalized at next Synod. As the Board's work is redefined for the future we would value your prayers. This may also mean that the shape of this publication could change and we will keep you informed as developments take place.

Sue Willgoss

PRAYER—Changes things...

There is **POWER** in prayer.

Jesus said where two or three are gathered together—he would be present!

If **2** pray the same prayer...

If **20** pray the same prayer...

If **200 or more** pray the same prayer...

What a **PRAYER COVER** is able to be sent out.

A blanket of 'positive prayer' surrounding each person, each place, each situation = support.

Be encouraged IASOP pray-ers, our Father hears and answers prayer.

Jesus prayed... He taught His disciples **HOW** to pray... (us too).

He told us that God is 'our father' - Therefore: one who cares, one whom we can approach at all times, one whom we can trust... talk to.

He told us of the Holy Spirit: John 14.

Counsellor, comforter, standby, always there with us and for us. He offers a personal relationship and is ready to give guidance in the smallest need.

"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Phillipians 4:7

Rosaleen

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Three members have commenced the ELM Lay preacher's course.

Lord, continue to bless the ministry of Connor Clark, special RE teacher employed by the *combined churches* in **Springwood** as he works in Springwood and Winmalee high schools. Thank you for the opportunities he has. Give him your creativity and sensitivity as he brings the Gospel to the students.

Fri Aug 27

Priority One continues to meet on Friday nights at **Leura**. Bless this time with your love, Lord Jesus. Let these young people grow in their understanding and knowledge of you.

West Epping requests prayer for the *Friday Discovery Group*, as they serve older members of the community, with a space for engaging in conversation and learning.

Sat Aug 28

We pray for the developing puppet ministry at **Yass**, as the leaders encourage a number of young people to participate and grow in their faith.

Wesley Mission asks for prayer for people who are living in supported accommodation facilities such as Edward Eagar Lodge. Pray that they would reflect on their relationship with Jesus Christ, as they struggle with mental illnesses and addiction.

Sun Aug 29

Heavenly Father, **Narrabri** pray for cooperation among the churches of Narrabri so that we may bring Christ to those in our community who do not know him.

Mon Aug 30

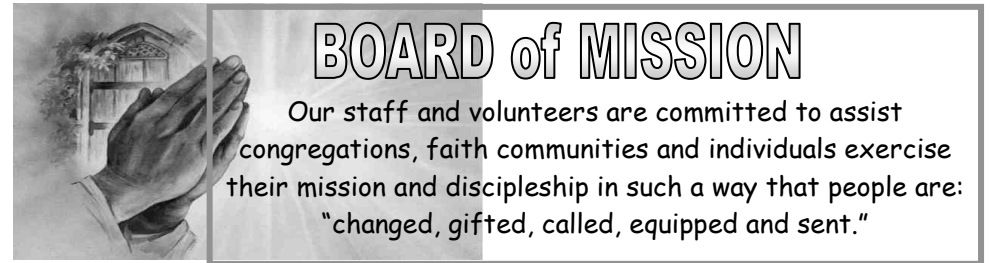
Narrabri are thankful for the *emergency services* in our town. We ask for prayer for their training, safety on the job and what has been achieved so far.

Wesley Mission prays for Aged Care residents, many of whom experience loneliness, health issues, various stages of dementia and disconnection from their communities. Lord, help them to experience a sense of belonging, care and comfort in Wesley's Aged Care facilities. We pray also for their spiritual health. Help our staff to be enriched and supported through caring for these residents.

Tues Aug 31

Narrabri pray that we can centre on the Bible and indeed the Word who is our Lord Jesus. We pray that as we read and prayerfully meditate on His word we will be inspired and sustained for this life and our future life in heaven.

"Because he loves me," says the LROD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name." Psalm 91:14



Continue to pray for **Tina Rendell** Director and **Sue Willgoss**, assistant and support person.

ACCOUNTS:

Pray for **Koko Sunarko**, Accountant and **Veronica Rebolledo**, Receptionist, Accounts support person.

RURAL MISSION & DEVELOPMENT

Pray for **Ross Neville** in the offices at Orange and for **Gillian Blowes**, Administration Assistant.

Healing & Wholeness

Pray for 'Healing Workshops' being held at a number of congregations. Visit Website: <http://nsw.uca.org.au/bom/healing>

RURAL CHAPLAINS

Pray for **Kel Hodge** in this important role of assisting our people in Rural areas in this time of need.

Pray for **Julie Greig**, based at Hillston, enable her to be able to provide support and encouragement to people in the bush, particularly isolated Christians. Keep her safe whilst living and travelling alone.

SMRF: Pray for:

Allison Forrest Administrator: Synod Mission Resource Fund. Pray for

Carolyn Robertson and **Adele Smith** in their part time job share in SMRF.

Pray for support being given to congregations. Preparation for the sessions held throughout the year. Pray for the new mission projects funded by SMRF.

CROSS CULTURAL:

Pray for **Myong Duk Yang** Cross-cultural Consultant, Asian Congregations and Education as he continues in this area of mission.

CROSS CULTURAL

CONSULTANT (PACIFIC ISLANDS) Pray for **Charissa Suli** (two days a week) as she works in this important area of the intergenerational workshops, Pray for **Saleisi Faupula** staying on four hours a week to assist.

LIVING IS GIVING

Pray for **Danielle Pitts** as she keeps in touch with congregations. The gifts donated throughout the year despite the hardship in some areas are very much appreciated. Pray for ongoing support of the mission focused areas of Living is Giving.

Pray for **Wah Sim** (accountant who helps often when needed).

NCLS

Pray for **Ruth Powell**, NCLS Director, pray for the Lord's guidance as she continues this important work.

Pray for: **Amelia Fotofili**, Admin Assistant and

Pray for the team workers:

Sam Sterland, Michael Pippett, Chris Simpson, Michael Brady and Natalie Swann

LEADERSHIP INSITUTE

Pray for **Peter and Sue Kaldor** as they continue to work with ministers and lay people in Leadership Intensive Courses within the Leadership Institute.

Pray for **Belinda Fry** as she continues working for Cross Cultural consultants, New Congregation Consultant and the Uturn Consultant along with working on Interaction.

U TURN Peter John Hopkins, U Turn Consultant

The Uniting Church is discovering new ways to be a practical witness to people in local communities. Pray for Peter as he assists the growth of creative small groups, evangelism, contemporary worship and regional congregations.

UAICC Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress. Pray for **Pearl Wymarra**, in her position as Development outreach Officer for Congress.

Pray for **Hazel Leano** as UAICC Resource Officer. Hazel is assisting Pearl and Congress NSW and ACT.

New church work:

Any new church work is a challenge and NWUC is one of several initiatives across our church. New things are happening across our rural areas and in many urban and regional situations.

We thank God that NorthWest Uniting has moved into new premises at 1/322 Annangrove Road, Rouse Hill. We pray for them in this new venue that the congregation will continue to grow.

Please continue to pray for and seek to know more about new mission work in your areas and presbyteries.

Pray for our Synod and Presbytery mission consultants and leaders as they continue to encourage and resource across the State.

It was PRAYER that sustained Jesus and caused Him to minister with power, and it is prayer that will sustain us and enable us all to serve the Lord

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Mathew 6:9-13

serve you and your people. Give them your wisdom and initiative as they seek to pastor and encourage the congregation.

Dear God, we thank you for the Indigenous Issues group in **Dee Why**. They take responsibility for raising awareness of Aboriginal Affairs in the congregation and the community. We thank them for providing a library at our church to enable us to become more familiar with an understanding of their situations.

F2W (Free to Worship) Youth Service will be held at **Peak Hill**. Pray that there will be helpful messages given for the young people.

Mon Aug 23

Narrabri ask for prayer for the facilitation of small groups in our church. May everyone in our congregation be part of a group and be encouraged to ask someone from the community to come to a home group.

Tues Aug 24

Please pray for **Bega** and **Tathra** today as they meet for a combined churches council.

Lord, we give thanks for your presence as we reflect upon the natural environment and the pleasure of living in Australia.

Bless the residents and staff at **Koombahla** ("Gum Tree") today in

Newcastle as they share in Communion with the Chaplain.

Alstonville church council meets this evening. We give thanks for each person on the council and for their special gifts. We pray for wisdom for each member as we make decisions about the calling of a new Minister.

Wed Aug 25

Thank you Lord for the way you call people to serve you. We thank you for all the chaplains who serve through the **UnitingCare Ageing**. Today we especially remember Philip Eldridge as he oversees the chaplaincy work in 3 presbyteries, Canberra, Illawarra and Georges River. Continue to sustain his pastoral heart.

Lord, we ask that you be with us in our Share-A-Care Group at **Dee Why**, meeting today to listen and offer friendship and support in your name.

Thurs Aug 26

Dear Father, **Narrabri's** are thankful for our *lay preachers and leaders* who are doing a wonderful job. We ask that at least two more suitable preachers come forward for training and working in this area. One member of our congregation has completed Preliminary Theological Certificate (PTC) through Moore Theological College External Studies unit and has started the intermediate level study.

Tues Aug 17

God of inspiration, we remember today the monthly gatherings of the Regional Director's Team and the three Chaplains at the Regional Office of **UnitingCare Ageing HCCNE**.

Wed Aug 18

Please pray for **Bega** and **Tathra** today as they meet regarding Elders.

A communion service will be held at *Frazer Court Aged Care Hostel* at **Peak Hill**. Pray for *Maurine and Kay* as they lead these services that they will be very meaningful and helpful to the residents, some of whom have dementia.

Central West Women's Emmaus to be held at Ridgecrest near Wellington (18-21 Aug.). Pray that the Spirit of God will move in an amazing way to bless the pilgrims and team as they become more aware of God's love and grace.

Thurs Aug 19

The *Police Board* will give a concert tonight to raise funds for the **Kiama** high school teacher. We pray for a good response and continued support for this valuable work.

We pray for all those afflicted with the challenges of substance abuse and mental ill-health. Lord, give your wisdom and guidance to those who attend the 'No Wrong Door' forum at **Wesley Mission** today.

Be with them as they discuss ways of supporting, caring and healing.

Fri Aug 20

Heavenly Father, please support the *elderly folk* in the **Narrabri** congregation and community. We pray particularly for the *church services* conducted once a month at the *two aged care facilities* in Narrabri. We pray for those who have health problems and experience difficulty in getting around. We value the contribution of our golden oldies to the wisdom and nature of our congregation.

Sat Aug 21

Lord, bless those who gather this afternoon for the Emmaus gathering in **North Nowra**. Continue to ignite the fire of love in their hearts that the first disciples experienced so long ago. Be with Vern as he leads Communion.

Sun Aug 22

We give thanks, Lord, for the faithful witness of those who regularly attend the 12 Noon Korean Service each Sunday at **Burwood**, and for Pastor Sara Lee who conducts the service. We pray today for the service, the Fellowship meal and the International Bible Study.

We pray for the Elders of **Springwood** who meet today. Lord, give them a fresh understanding of what it means to



July August 2010

Thank you Lord for the way you have helped **Bomaderry** congregation in progressing their building renovations. Shoalhaven Council has approved the plans and a loan has been secured from Uniting Financial Services.

We thank you also for the wonderful service led by the local high school students and Grant, their SRE teacher.

Narrabri have had an increase in Kids Club members. Two super holiday events are planned for this year.

UnitingCare Ageing Hunter, Central Coast and **New England** give thanks to God for the life-changing contribution of Carol Penning to its ministry. As the Director of Residential Care Services for five years, Carol is remembered for her commitment to improving the quality of care and well-being for people in our care and improving the quality of education of those who have the privilege of providing that care. Carol's work included implementing and piloting person-centred training resources across NSW acute care.

Carol died on 1 May after a difficult illness and will be greatly missed by her family, partner and colleagues.

Thank you, Lord, for a very successful street stall in **Dee Why**. Thank you to Legacy for giving the area in front of their premises to set up and sell. This is a thoroughfare for the main shopping area. It was an opportunity to tell people about the charities and projects that we give the proceeds to. We thank all who donated goods, baking, knitting, quilts and jewellery.

We give thanks for Karla and Karina, who faithfully take SRE classes at **Dee Why** primary school. We pray for blessing on the students and wisdom for the leaders to make Your Word special with love.

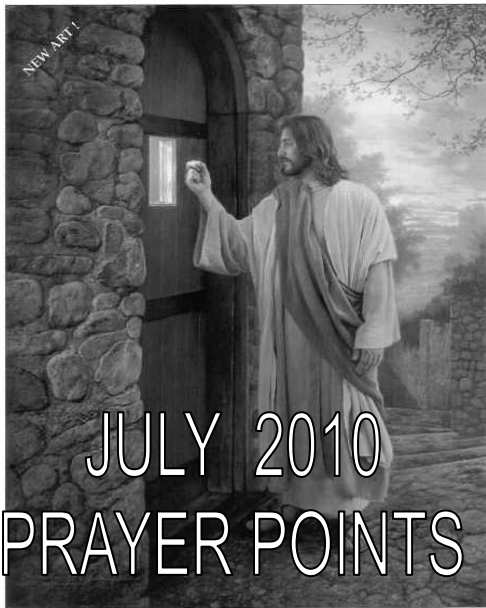
Dee Why is very grateful for the generous donations from all who contributed to the building fund in order to make many repairs because of the heavy rains a few months ago.

Give thanks for a great day when the *Central West Emmaus* held their gathering and fellowship weekend at **Peak Hill**.

The Youth F2W monthly Sunday night happenings at Peak Hill are going well. The *Friendship Luncheons* on the last Friday of the month at Peak Hill are being blest by your prayers particularly the one on the 28th May.

Give thanks that one elderly lady is becoming interested in reading the Bible. *The Macquarie Darling Leadership Intensives* continue to go well with one more two day trainings to go.

The visit to Peak Hill by the *Moderator and his wife* brought great blessing to the Peak Hill congregation through his preaching and the Grace Workshop.



Thurs July 1

Lord, we pray for wisdom and patience as the **Dubbo** congregation enters into a *cluster relationship* with neighbouring congregations.

Lord, give you special inspiration and enabling to the congregations at **Leura**, **Katoomba** and **Blackheath** as they begin a new phase of their life as churches in their communities of the Upper Blue Mountains. Show them new and creative ways of being at mission.

We pray for the residents and staff of **Garden Suburb** Aged Care Facility in Newcastle, part of the Hunter Central Coast and New England Region of UnitingCare Ageing.

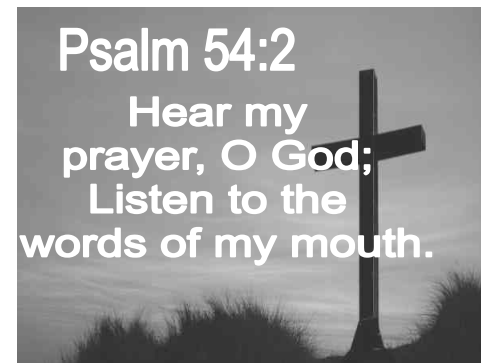
May each person there know the strength of the Lord's presence for this day.

Heavenly Father, be with **Dee Why** in their Christian Meditation group. Provide them with an opportunity to experience the creative power of silence. Let them listen for the Spirit of Christ. "Be still and know that I am God."

Fri July 2

Bega gives thanks for a family of refugees from Congo, who have been brought to settle in Bega and joined our congregation. Please pray that they will be able to learn English quickly so they can develop relationships in the community and in the church, and for God's enabling as they adjust to a new and different culture.

We give thanks for the start of the combined Chrysalis Flights at **Evans Head**. We pray a blessing on all who attend this weekend. We pray that lives will be changed by the Holy Spirit moving within people.



Please pray that God will provide us with a guest speaker.

Macquarie Darling Presbytery PRC Meetings – Lord, we pray that wise decisions will be made for the mission of the Presbytery.

Central West Emmaus Men's Walk to be held at Ridgecrest near Wellington (12-15 Aug). Pray that team and pilgrims will blend well and that the pilgrims will receive great blessing as they spend three days on their walk to Emmaus. Pray that the team will depend on God to do the work that only God can do.

Fri Aug 13

Maitland District Christian Association support Joyce on day a week as she "Plants the seeds of God's love in the hearts of high school students" at Maitland High. We pray God's blessing over Joyce and the students she relates to each week. Thank you that many local churches support this outreach, both financially and in prayer.

Alstonville gives thanks for the young families who attend the Mainly Music program on Friday mornings during the school term.

Macquarie Darling Presbytery meets at Dubbo (13-14 Aug). Pray that congregations will be encouraged and inspired by the Presbytery.

Sat Aug 14

We ask for prayer to surround **Rick, Kent** and other *Ministers* from the **Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery** as they attend the annual *Ministers' Retreat* at Meroo in August. We pray that this will be a time of refreshment, inspiration and challenge.

Sun Aug 15

Maitland Eastside youth group prays that the leaders will know God's strength and wisdom in running the group and that the activities will meet the needs of those who attend. Lord, we ask your blessing on young people facing difficulties in life.

Mon Aug 16

Narrabri pray for the development of *pastoral caring ability* for each and *every member* of our congregation. A Pastoral Care course has started.

We ask for God's wisdom and guidance for the *Presbytery* team as they work together with **Hazelbrook** in determining future directions for ministry.



with our new Ministry Agent, the congregation and community.

The *Treasure Seekers* Kid's Club meets this afternoon at **Springwood**. Lord, bless Charla and her team as they organise and interact with the children.

Alstonville elders meet this afternoon. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us, as we are without a Minister. Thank you, Lord, for the many and varied gifts of the elders.

Wed Aug 11

Holy Spirit, as the **Illawarra Presbytery** meets late this afternoon please guide its leaders as they seek to advance Your kingdom through the congregations of the area.

Lord, bless the Adult Fellowship as they meet today in **Hazelbrook**. Let this be a time of encouragement and enjoyment for all who attend.

Today is **Gerringong's** Fellowship Lunch in aid of *Frontier Services*. We thank you, God, for the dedicated people who work in this service.

James 1:5

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Peak Hill Girls Club meets on Wednesday afternoons. Lord, we pray that the girls who attend this club will become dedicated followers of Jesus.

Thurs Aug 12

Lord, we give thanks for Margaret Henry, a key leader in the History group at **Beecroft's** Leisure Learning Centre. We pray you encourage her as she arranges speakers. We pray also for more church members to take on leadership in this outreach ministry.

We are aware that there are many different ways that we can be at mission in our communities. We pray especially today for *Mountain Journeys*, a group in the **Blue Mountains** which seeks to meet the needs of those who do not wish to be part of the established church.

Each Thursday, a group from **Thornleigh Hillcrest** congregation meets with a number of people from non-English speaking backgrounds to assist them in becoming more proficient in the English language. Lord, we give thanks for this opportunity to meet people and pray that they will know that they are valued and accepted in the Australian community.

Today the **Finley** Fellowship will be having their annual lunch with a guest speaker. We pray that this will be a time of sharing and fellowship.

Sat July 3

We thank you, Lord, for your presence with those who come to Fellowship in **Bega**. Our gatherings continue in spit of grey hairs and slow steps. One member recently passed to be with the Lord after a life of service. Please pray for us.

We pray with **Springwood** to take up opportunities to be involved in their communities through a variety of service roles.

Lord, bless Rev. Janice Freestone as she ministers as Chaplain to the local Ambulance service.

A small group of the **Thornleigh Hillcrest** congregation will be meeting this morning to pray for the ministry, people and needs of the congregation, community and world. Lord, bless those who gather and let their prayers assist in strengthening and guiding the congregation's mission.

Lord, we pray for the **Central West Emmaus Team Training** 3-4 July, at Ridgecrest for Emmaus Walks to be held in August.

Pray that the teams will work together well and that the talks given will be what is needed for the walks and the pilgrims that will come. Lord, we pray for *Spiritual Directors* and *Lay Directors* that they will be given the wisdom and discernment needed.

Sun July 4

Narrabri praise the Lord for the provision of a *Ministry Agent* for our *Western Resource Program*. **Narrabri** and **Moree** churches share in this resource ministry. We look forward with excitement for what God is going to do in this cooperative mission.

Lord, be with **Dee Why** as our Cromer church members visit this afternoon for tea and the renewing of friendships and love.

Mon July 5

We thank you Lord for the many babies and children and their families who have been blessed by your love in baptism by our Minister Rev. Dr. Kenneth Brown at **Kincumber**.

West Epping asks for prayer for the *Soup and Fellowship nights* at the Manse each Monday - that it would continue to be a time and place of deep sharing across cultures.

Lord, we pray for *SRE classes* that are held at **Peak Hill Central School**.

We pray for *School Chaplain Caleb* who also does the Secondary SRE classes and *Gai* who is a teacher's aid who does the Primary SRE classes. Lord, we pray that the children's hearts will be turned to God.

Tues July 6

Beecroft give thanks for Stewart MacLaren and the committed leadership team of Beecroft Seniors club, as they reach out to the frail and aged in the local community. Lord, continue to bless and increase their ministry.

Gracious God, may the comfort of your presence be a reality this day for residents and staff in **Irwin Hall** Newcastle (UnitingCare Ageing HCCNE) as they share in the monthly Praise service with the Chaplain.

Two fellowship groups meet at **Alstonville** today. We pray that this will be a special time of Christian fellowship for both the afternoon and evening groups.

Trust in the Lord and do good;
Dwell in the land and cultivate
faithfulness.
Delight yourself in the Lord;
And He will give you the desires
of your heart. **Psalm 37:3-4**

Wed July 7

Please pray for those who take services in the homes and hostels of **Bega**, Tathra and Pambula. People living in this type of accommodation are very grateful and wish to extend their thanks.

Lord, **Wesley Mission** thank you for holidays and times of refreshment.

We ask for prayer for the Winter Ski Camp being held on the 2nd-4th July and for the July school holiday Operation Hope camps from 12th-16th July 2010.

We pray that our guests will continue to enjoy their time here and be blessed by their stay. We give thanks for the opportunity to serve them. Thank you, Lord for our sponsors. Without them we would not be able to host these camps.

Thurs July 8

Give wisdom and creativity, Lord, as the *Worship Ministry Group* meets for planning in **Springwood** tonight. May they know your leading as they seek to facilitate inspiring worship using the gifts and talents of their people.

Lord, thank you for time shared with loved ones who now rest in your presence. We ask that this month's Memorial Service at **Narla Village** (UnitingCare, HCCNE) will uplift the residents and family visitors with good memories of times past.

Maitland Eastside Holiday Kids Club gives thanks for the great time we have had with the children in previous holidays. We pray that this day too will be a blessing to children and their families. Let them learn more of your love for them.

Lord, we pray for the residents and staff of **Lindsay Gardens** Aged Care Facility in Newcastle in the HCCNE Region of UnitingCare Ageing. Let each one know your strength in body, mind and spirit.

John 15:12-13

This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.



Sat Aug 7

Lord, please bless the workers and visitors to the *car boot sale* at **Kincumber**, May the special bargains be warm friendship and a word of encouragement.

Today, **Springwood Women's Walking Group** will enjoy an outing to Red Hands cave at Glenbrook. Lord, bless this opportunity to invite friends along and to fellowship alongside the beauty of your creation.

Sun Aug 8

The Children's Church in **Bega** continues steadily, with lots of children to teach. Lord, be with those who teach and help; Tim, Rosie, Sue and Helen.

We ask for blessings for the 'Seedlings' group of 3 to 5 year olds.

Mon Aug 9

Father, we ask for special blessing on the congregations of **Leura**, **Katoomba** and **Blackheath**, as they continue to work on their individual mission plans.

We pray for wisdom for Rev. Janice Freeston in her role as facilitator. We ask also that there will be continue to be good relationships between these congregations as they witness to your love in the Upper Mountains.

Lord, please be with the **Dee Why KADDY** open house helpers who are loving careers to disabled and elderly people. Thank you for those who faithfully provide lunch and fellowship every Monday. Strengthen those who attend with your Holy Spirit.

Lord, we pray for *SRE classes* that are held at **Peak Hill Central School**. We pray for *School Chaplain Caleb* who also does the Secondary SRE classes and *Gai* who is a teacher's aid who does the Primary SRE classes. Lord, we pray that the children's hearts will be turned to God.

Tues Aug 10

Lord **Narrabri** asks that you lead and direct our *church councillors* particularly the way that they work

Lord, may the people with the right gifts and talents at **Kincumber** hear your call to accept the challenge to serve as Elders..

Many people in a congregation contribute to worship, Lord. As **Bomaderry** congregation gather this morning to praise and worship You, they give thanks for your bountiful gifts given and used. Thank You for those who preach, provide music, read the Scriptures, welcome folk at the door, prepare the grounds and building and those who create fellowship with morning tea following the service.

Mon Aug 2

Pray for the *Scripture teachers* in **Dubbo** and especially those who have been recently employed to teach in the local *high schools*.

The *Normanhurst Christian Education Association (NCEA)* Management Committee meets tonight to oversee the SRE program at Hornsby Girls' and Normanhurst Boys' High Schools. **NCEA** is supported by 12 local churches and employs a teacher, Magda De Boer, who works in both schools. We seek your blessing, Lord, on the committee and the teacher and pray that the program presented will continue to interest and challenge the more than 800 students who regularly attend Magda's classes.

Tues Aug 3

Please pray for **Bega** today as they meet regarding Elders.

Lord, bless the **Alstonville** fellowship groups as they meet today in the afternoon and evening.

Wed Aug 4

We pray for our congregation AT **Narrabri** to start *U TURN groups* in our community. Maybe the SES cadet scheme could be considered a U TURN group?

Thurs Aug 5

Lord, please oversee the renovations as they take place at **Bomaderry**. Thank you for the expertise of a Christian builder. Guide him and his workers as they create from a dated building a better facility for the congregation to use in their mission to the community.

Alstonville's craft group meets this afternoon. Thank you, Lord, for the people from outside church who come along. We ask for the Holy Spirit to be in the room as gifts are shared and new skills taught.

Fri Aug 6

Beecroft has had a long-term commitment to the pastoral care of the residents of the Copeland Gardens retirement village. Lord, we pray that you will give a special revelation of your love and hope to all who live there.

Fri July 9

Dear Jesus, thank you for your support of the children of the '*Rock Kids Club*' at **Narrabri** and for *the leaders* of this group.

We value the regular participation of the *Uniting, Anglican and Presbyterian* churches in the club. Jesus please bless *the team* and continue to touch the children who come. Pray that the club can meet the needs of the primary aged children. Most of all may the love of Jesus surround the kids who come.

Sat July 10

As the markets continue on the second Saturday of the month at **Hazelbrook** we pray that they will be a constant witness in the community and a way of showing God's love. Lord, bless those who serve and those who come along. Lord, we are saddened when people take their own lives. Please help us to know how to help.

Thank you for the funding for **Wesley Mission** to run free LifeForce training and for the support networks set up in local communities. We ask for you blessing to establish new LifeForce Suicide Prevention Networks in Palmerston and Darwin. Help the leaders of Wesley to connect with the right people, and be able to support those affected by suicide by raising awareness and through education.



Sun July 11

Lord, we pray for *Revs Chris and Margaret* in **Dubbo** as they give leadership in a time of structural change and missional challenge.

Guide **Dee Why**, Lord, as they minister to their young people.

Be with leaders Ruth and Merryn and volunteers, as they show the wonder of your love.

We thank you, Lord, for the years that **Wesley Mission** has run the *RJ Williams Lodge in Glebe*.

Thank you for all who have served faithfully and lovingly. As Wesley Mission closes this service, please walk ahead of those seeking new accommodation and allow their path to be comfortable and easy. Pray for the staff, as they too find new places to work.

Mon July 12

Narrabri ask for prayer for personal retreat and ministry time for our lay preachers and leaders. A women's retreat was held in March.

Tues July 13

As the Open Hearth lunch is served today at Katoomba Church by members from **Leura, Katoomba** and **Blackheath** churches, we pray for a special blessing on those who come and those who serve.

Lord, grant your wisdom and guidance to *Eric, Jenni and the Regional Coordinators* in the Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy Leadership Team meeting today at Pitt Street. May your Holy Spirit continue to challenge and affirm the work of **UnitingCare Ageing**.

Wed July 14

Carlingford prays for guidance for the JNC in finding a minister for the English speaking Worship Group.

Peak Hill Girls Club meets on Wednesday afternoons. Lord, we pray that the girls who attend this club will become dedicated followers of Jesus.

Thurs July 15

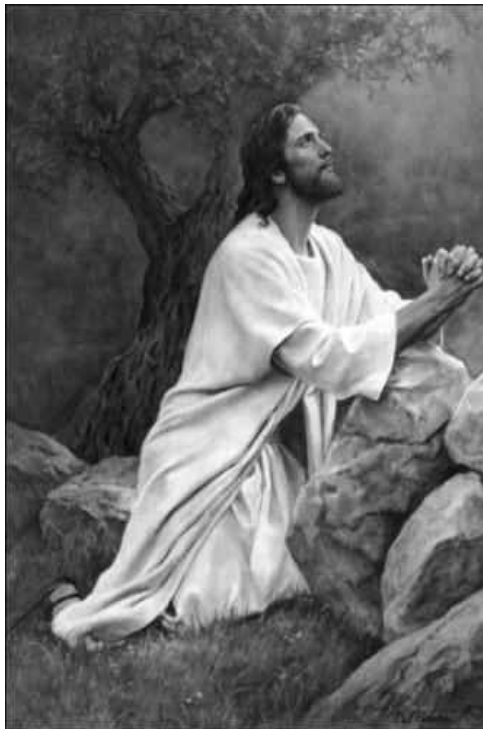
We thank you Lord for the faithful people who have prepared the meals and served at MUNCH over many years at the **Maitland** church hall. We pray for Stewart, Pat, Colin and Joan in the leadership roles they have taken. Give them strength and good health as they oversee the smooth running of this program.

Lord, we ask you to be with our craft group of women in **Dee Why**

who meet this morning to make many beautiful items, not only for sale at our street stalls but more importantly to share fellowship over a cuppa. Give us the wisdom to know when to listen and not advise, and to show caring love.

Finley gives thanks for the opportunity to fellowship with the people who come to the *Friendship Mornings* each month.

Macquarie Darling Presbytery PRC Meetings – Lord, we pray that wise decisions will be made for the mission of the Presbytery.



Fri July 30

We thank you Lord that there is now a Youth Group meeting at Maitland on 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. As they meet together, may they build friendships with one another, grow in God's love and bring friends to join this fellowship time. We ask your blessing on the leaders and young people.

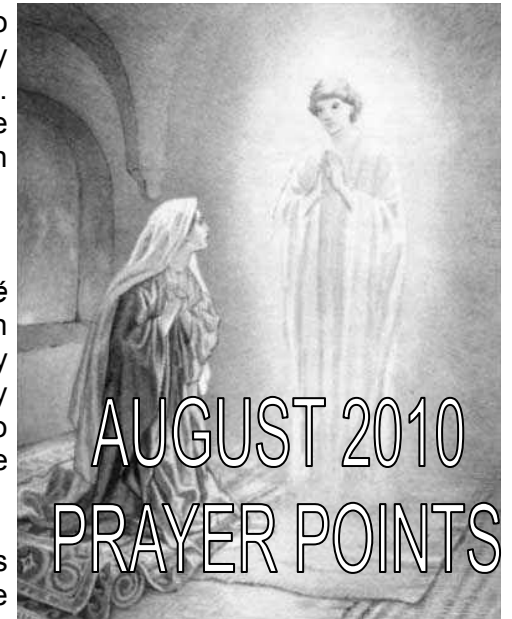
Thank you, God, for continuing to bless the outreach of the Mainly Music program at **Alstonville**. Please bless the team who are building friendships and trust with unchurched families.

Sat July 31

Lord, we pray for the *Midnite Café* in **Dubbo** that the relationships with young adults established may deepen and that the necessary resources may be provided to increase its impact in the community.

Lord, please be with the members of the local churches in the **Shoalhaven** area gather at the Bomaderry Church as they meet this morning to pray for the work of the SRE teachers in the local High Schools (SECET). We thank you for the dedication of the teachers. May they present the Gospel in a way that connects with the young people they teach. We also ask You to provide the finances to ensure that this work will continue.

Wesley Mission thanks God for the first LifeForce Memorial Day in Tasmania recently. Thank you, Lord, that this gives an opportunity for those affected by suicide to reflect and remember their loved ones. We pray for the preparation for this years' Memorial Services in Sydney, Newcastle and Tasmania.



Sun Aug 1

Narrabri are thankful for our faithful *Sunday school teachers* and ask for a blessing on their valuable ministry. We ask for prayer for some *Scripture teachers* of God's choosing to come forward for training and ministry in our local schools.

Mon July 26

Please pray for *Scripture teachers in schools*. Scripture is often the only contact some children have to help them know God. Lord, please be with Jenny in **Bega**, Pat in Bemboka and Dick in **Tathra** as they head up the teams. We pray that you will provide more teachers.

Tues July 27

We pray for the people at *Woodfield Lodge Retirement Hostel* in **Summer Hill** who will meet at 1pm today for the weekly worship service. We thank you, Lord, for the people from various local Uniting churches who fill the volunteer roster to conduct the service each Tuesday – both the preachers and the pianists. We pray also for all the residents both in the Hostel and Nursing Home and we give thanks for the dedication of the staff.

Wed July 28

Lord, we pray that you will bless each person visited or phoned by the Pastoral Care team or prayed for through the prayer chain at **Kincumber**. Please guide our listening and actions.

Springwood thanks you, Lord, for the many opportunities we have to work among our aged people in both the community and in aged care facilities. Bless those who organise them and bring programs which provide fellowship and encouragement.

Be with the elders of **Dee Why** tonight, Dear God, as we meet for an “enrichment evening” led by our minister Meredith Williams. We give thanks for her caring and devoted guidance. Help us to support her in every way with our love and assistance.

The last Macquarie Darling Leadership Intensive (28-29 July)

to be held at Narromine. Pray that understanding and leadership skills that have been learnt at these workshops will bear much fruit in the congregations.

Thurs July 29

Carlingford prays that the Mandarin and English speaking worship groups can continue in mutual understanding and give leadership in achieving their joint mission goals.

Lord, we give thanks for your many gifts that enable your work to be carried out. We ask for your blessing over the **UnitingCare Ageing HCCNE** Care & Social Justice Committee and the Board in today’s meetings.



Fri July 16

Lord, we ask you to uphold the **Yass** parish during their time without a ministry placement. Grant wisdom to the Joint Nominating Committee as they seek the person you are choosing to shepherd the **Yass** and **Rye Park** congregations.

Thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to minister to the residents at the Berriquin/Ulupna Nursing Home in **Finley** each month. Bless all the residents and those who lovingly care for them.

Sat July 17

Kincumber is reaching out to lovers of craft through Craft and Coffee mornings and Mastercrafts midweek. Lord, we pray that you will bless the fellowship and the creations.

We give thanks, Lord, for the people who will cater for the men’s breakfast at **Alstonville**. We pray that your presence will be felt by all who attend.

Wesley Mission thanks God for the tireless efforts of staff, especially our maintenance workers. Thank you, Lord, that we are able to be ourselves in this blessed country.

Sun July 18

Holy Spirit, please lead our congregation in an initiative to promote youth in the community of **Narrabri**.

The Youth Coordinator plans to be involved in a *SES pilot program* in third term 2010 at *Narrabri High School*. The State Emergency Service (SES) Cadet unit at the local High School is for fourteen to sixteen year old students and prepares them for entry as full members of SES from age 16.

Our church is hoping that this system will offer structured training for youth in our community and help them get work when they leave school.

Lord, as the folk at **Bomaderry** gather this morning after worship for their annual congregational meeting, please guide the proceedings and the business so that advancing your kingdom in their community will be the main goal. Thank you for those who have taken on leadership so willingly at this strategic time of building upgrading.

Lord, we bring to you all the *retired ministers* who take services in so many of our churches. Please bless them today, especially those at **Hazelbrook, Leura, Katoomba** and **Blackheath**.

Mon July 19

Lord, we pray for the growth and development of *Bible studies* in the **Dubbo** congregation.

The Elders of the **Thornleigh Hillcrest** congregation will be sharing a time of a fellowship and prayer this evening. They endeavour to provide spiritual oversight for the congregation. Loving God, let each Elder know your blessing as they encourage each other in serving the congregation.

Bega asks for prayer over travellers on the roads in the lovely Bega Valley during the holiday period. Lord, please help drivers be aware of other tourists, and to drive carefully.

Lord, give Charla (family worker) at **Springwood** a special measure of your grace and enabling as she enthusiastically seeks to make contacts in the community. Bless her as she encourages the young families in the community.

Tues July 20

Please pray for *Katherine Bell* and the *high school ministry team* at **Narrabri**. Praise the Lord that the school meeting building '*The Living Room*' is complete and in service. The facility is for ministry and school use and is an initiative of the combined churches of Narrabri. Pray for a sound financial basis for paying staff for this ministry.

Wed July 21

Pray for the leadership team of the Theo's group in **Bega** as one leader continues the process of

healing from a significant injury, and an assistant leader goes on team at a summer camp in the USA. Thank you, Lord, for the work of the Holy Spirit in focusing the attention of our youth on the things of Christ.

Thank you Lord for the opportunities members of the churches at **Leura, Katoomba** and **Blackheath** have to work with children at the *Homework Centre* at North Katoomba public school on Wednesday afternoons. May this be a meaningful way in which the church can support families in the community.

A *communion service* will be held at *Frazer Court Aged Care Hostel* at **Peak Hill**. Pray for *Maurine and Kay* as they lead these services that they will be very meaningful and helpful to the residents, some of whom have dementia.

Thurs July 22

When the new public housing estates near **Bomaderry** church are completed and tenants are in residence, Lord, please give the congregation confidence to distribute 'Welcome Bags'. Please let a friendly "Hello" go a long way in making the residents feel welcome in a new area and allow this gesture to be a bridge connecting the church and the community.

Please pray for the organisation of a proposed Multicultural Dinner at **Finley** church.

Fri July 23

We praise God for the leaders of the various leisure learning groups at **Beecroft**. Lord, we ask you to help the congregation to see the opportunity to be involved, so they can develop friendships and share the Good News with those outside the church.

Lord, bless the young people at **Springwood** as they meet for youth group tonight. Give wisdom and perseverance to the leaders as they seek to encourage and disciple these young people.

We ask God to touch the lives of the residents and staff at **Salamanca Bay** complex – Independent Living Units, Aged Care and "Beaumont" Dementia Unit.

Sat July 24

An old time Musical Hall Dinner Dance will be held in **Alstonville's** hall today. We pray that all who attend will be richly blessed.

West Epping requests prayer for the *Wombat Walkers Group* as they explore and enjoy God's creation together on Saturdays once a month.

Gerringong holds their quarterly sale of items for the Samaritans Purse Christmas Boxes today. Lord, we thank you for the generosity of members of this church and many others who give to this appeal.



Sun July 25

Lord, we pray for **Rev Bronwyn Murphy** in her resource ministry within the *Macquarie Darling Presbytery*.

We thank God for the people who provide lifts for the elderly to attend to church in **Dee Why**. Let them also be able to provide a listening ear for any who are lonely or sad and in need of love or support.

F2W (Free to Worship) Youth Service will be held at **Peak Hill**. Pray that there will be helpful messages given for the young people.