

"You have set up a banner for those who fear you, that they may flee to it from the bow." Psalm 60:4

# The Presbyterian Banner



July 2021

## This Issue

“We exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God” 1 Thessalonians 2:12

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### From the Editor



Sinclair Ferguson writes in his book, *Devoted to God's Church*, "So if the congregation is not being carefully taught God's word; and if there is no element of rebuke, and correction, and equipping for service, then that fellowship needs another minister who will follow through with Paul's exhortation [in 2 Timothy 4:2]. It is as simple, serious, and important as that. Our own preachers may not be the best in the world; but that is not the issue. Rather it is whether there is enough instruction, feeding, challenging, and nurturing to transform our lives."

I find this to be sobering and challenging. I have been set apart to "Preach the word!" But I can't help but sometimes struggle with whether my own life is being adequately transformed by the word I preach, let alone the lives of those under my care.

Ferguson's challenge is also relevant for our brothers and sisters in vacant congregations, such as in Ulverstone. In searching for a pastor, is the goal to find someone who will line up with our agenda and is happy to let us remain as we are, or someone who hopes to be used by God to instruct, feed, challenge, nurture His people, for the goal of transformed lives?

Please continue to pray for wisdom and strength for your pastors.

Jim Klazinga

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There are congregations in Kalinga in QLD; Maclean, Grafton, Wauchope, Kindee, Taree, Cardiff, Raymond Terrace, Sydney CBD, and Mt Druitt in NSW; Wantirna, Mulgrave, Narre Warren, Carrum Downs, and Geelong in VIC; Ulverstone in TAS.

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

## Maurice Robert’s “The Christian’s High Calling”

Recommended by Ian Hamilton

The Christian’s High Calling was published by the Banner of Truth in 2000. Its author is the Rev Maurice Roberts, retired minister of the Free Church Continuing, and editor of the Banner of Truth magazine between 1988 and 2003.

Following the recommendation of ministry candidate Zach Dotson, we commenced using this book in 2020 as the basis of a regular online study meeting.

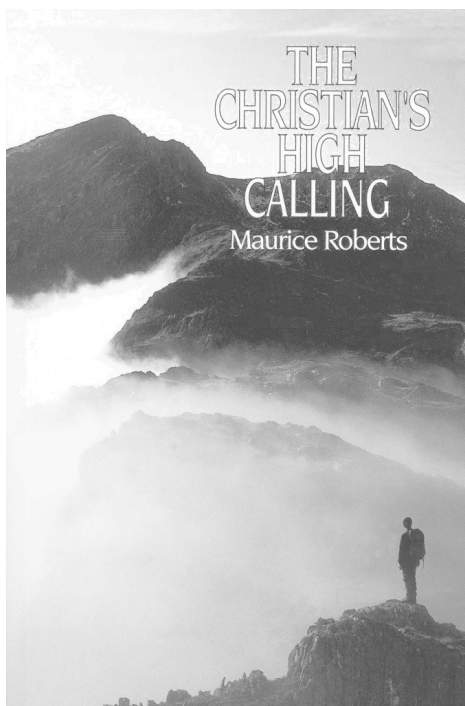
Having established a relationship with Zach and his wife Wilma earlier that year, we were interested in fostering this further with a time of encouragement and growth in the Christian life.

We meet at 9AM on a Saturday morning in each month, having prepared by reading the chapter that falls next. The timing of the meeting has worked out well, as Zach joins in to lead the study from the USA on a Friday evening his time.

The book has proven to be very engaging and at times challenging as we seek to measure our own Christian lives and values against what it presented. We highly recommend it.

The book is divided into thirty-one chapters spread across four sections covering ‘The nature of the Christian Life,’ ‘The struggle of Faith,’ ‘The Christians enjoyment of grace and glory,’ and ‘Faithfulness in the modern church.’

The opening section comprises nine chapters with headings such



as ‘Two steps to happiness,’ ‘A well balanced Christianity,’ ‘Why Spirituality comes first,’ and ‘What is a Christian.’ Thus these topics connect with vital themes of importance to the Christian who is serious about their calling.

The two extracts below, provided with permission of the publisher, are from Chapter 11, titled, ‘The danger of becoming battle weary.’

P81. ‘A second reason why we cannot excuse ourselves for our habitual spiritual dullness is that Jesus Christ, who is our model man, had none of it. Our blessed Saviour was a burning and a flaming torch of zeal towards God. He was always alive to God his Father, always zealous of God’s law and jealous of God’s honour. He was ever vibrant in his preaching and witness, ever

searching in his judgement of men and their motives, ever fervent for the gospel and ever compassionate towards the lost. Anything like deadness of soul is absent from Christ. The Gospels carry no record of it because they mean us to believe that it was uniquely absent from his perfect character. The kingdom of God was everything to Christ. For its sake He came into the world, fulfilled all righteousness, wrought miracles of every sort, entered at last into death and the grave and then triumphantly ascended to the right hand of God.’

P82. ‘Oh if only we might receive fresh power to appreciate all that we already know! Oh that we might know in a way that we clearly do not yet know! Oh that the meaning of what we profess would dawn upon our spirits with sevenfold greater force and influence! The real reason, one fears, why so many Christians today clamour for new revelations and new prophecies is that their hearts – and perhaps ours too – have never been gripped by the grand old truths of the Bible. Those who like Bunyan and Spurgeon have found the doctrines of grace to be a treasure-house of interest and delight will never wander off into the by-paths of human speculation or pretended prophesying.’

*Ian Hamilton is an elder serving in the Ulverstone PCEA.*



## "God Is Precious to Me Now"

### An Interview with Mrs. Jean Hearps

*Mrs. Jean Hearps is the oldest member of the Ulverstone PCEA. She was recently interviewed by elder Ian Hamilton.*

Ian: Jean, you are turning the incredible age of 99 on the 25th June. Can you tell us about your family background?

Jean: I grew up in Upper Castra, inland from Ulverstone. My father had a general store there. It was a good secure home. We grew up with discipline, order, authority and respect. It was a beautiful Christian home.

We were poor, and in the depression years it was very hard.

We belonged to the old Methodist church. On Saturday, everything had to be prepared, as we observed the Lord's Day quite strongly. I loved going to church because I loved singing.

Then I wandered away. I praise God for the way that He kept me over those years, even though I got into trouble in a couple of places.

I married Ab in 1942, and we had five sons and two daughters. I have fourteen grandchildren and twenty one great grandchildren.

While Ab was away (between 1943 and 1945), I was converted. It was very hard to raise our children without a Christian husband.

Ab was in the Air Force and served at Morotai and two other islands. He worked to prepare the airstrips for operation.

When Ab came back from the war, he was different. We were both different. I do wonder whether I should have ended it, but we honoured our marriage vows.



Ab was very good in the home, but they were difficult days.

Ian: Could you tell us about your Christian faith and calling?

Jean: Through the preaching of Rev Charles Rodman, the Lord spoke to me.

We belonged to the Ambassadors for Christ, and we used to have special meetings. There were often big appeals made at those meetings for people to come forward.

I felt the Lord spoke to me and was dealing with me. I knew then that I was a sinner and I asked God's forgiveness.

They were wonderful meetings with lots of godly, evangelical men. Many of those attending came from the Church of England or Baptist churches.

But then we started to see that there was something wrong with the churches.

When God led us into the Reformed faith, we were thrown out of our churches. But God's

word came alive to us and we were very concerned to glorify God.

Ian: Talk about the Tasmanian revival of the 1950s and 60s.

Jean: The ones that were in the Ambassadors seemed to be the ones that God brought into the Reformed faith.

The Ambassadors for Christ were trying to convert Australia. That was their mission. They were very zealous, but didn't have much knowledge.

They would arrange men to come over and speak at the town hall. They were good days.

We also met for prayer and it was based on God's word.

We had a desire to see God working. We just thought that we were praying for revival in the churches.

But when we were brought into the Reformed faith, I remember Hughie (Rev Hugh McNeally) saying to me, "Jean, this is what we prayed for."

That truth is just as precious to me today as it was when I first came into the Reformed faith. It was like I was in a room with the curtains across, and then I walked out into the sunshine. It was a wonderful, wonderful experience.

We studied Thomas Watson's book, The Body of Divinity. That took us through the five points – called TULIP.

When I came to Limited Atonement, I thought, no, that was the very opposite to what we had ever learnt. To accept that God had chosen some and not others was very hard for me. But Rev Eric Turnbull explained it to me.

## Getting to Know Each Other

"I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:3

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Another question I had was why I hadn't been converted before I got married. Then I would have had a Christian husband.

But then I read in Thomas Watson's book that the circumstances of our lives where God has placed us fit us better than our own clothes.

*Ian:* Can you tell us what the revival movement was based on?

*Jean:* It was based on the authority of Scripture and fervent prayer for revival and blessing.

We didn't have much knowledge, but we had a lot of zeal. We prayed and believed that God was going to work, but not in the way that He did. When we were excommunicated, we didn't have a clue what it was all about. It was pretty hard.

We had some help from the PCEA and its men that came over. Rev Edwin Lee for example. The PCEA men had solid training that I believe makes all the difference.

But there were early hurts and differences of opinion in the new church that couldn't be resolved. This led to separations, damage and much sadness. There didn't seem to be anyone to moderate the difficulties.

It was a wonderful time, but it was also a time when a lot of people got hurt. The Lord was faithful, but I think we should have had more help from the PCEA and someone to guide us.

*Ian:* What is your advice for the church and young people of today?

*Jean:* The churches of today are weak in numbers. I think we need another revival of God's truth.

There could be more times of prayer in our church.

The verse that I love most of all

is 2 Chronicles 7:14. "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

I think we live in a terrible age and it's affecting our schools. It's affecting everything.

And what do we need? Times of prayer and a deeper work of grace in the hearts of God's people. That they will be more concerned about what's happening in our land. That is my desire as I sit here and pray. That the men will be men of God, they will be men of prayer and emptied of pride. That they will have good wives.

We need another revival of God's truth in our land. It makes me sad to see the churches of today and their message. They are trying to bring God down to man's level.

Our young people need to learn the Bible while they are young. They need to store it up in their hearts, and then they will know it when they are older.

To know verses such as Philippians 1:6, "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." I remember an old missionary lady telling me this verse at my baptism.

*Ian:* What do you most give thanks to God for?

*Jean:* For the way that He has kept me here for six years in this home. Because it is very hard to be separated from the fellowship of God's people. But I spend more time in prayer and my faith in God is much greater since I have been separated. God is precious to me

now. The things of God and the Word of God are much more precious to me.

When you are put in a place where God takes everything away, your eyes go, your ears go, your legs go, your home's gone and your money's gone and you've lost everything, then you will either go down or you will trust God. I have trusted God.

The Word of God is much more precious to me today than it ever was. God has taken away all these other things, but I have a greater faith in God today than I ever had before I came here.

If I have opportunity to speak to someone, I do. If there is someone that's sick that I go to, I ask if they want me to pray with them. When God places you in circumstances like this, you either learn to trust Him or you go down.

Another favourite verse is Philippians 3:8, "Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ."

One of the best things I ever heard since coming here was Zach (Dotson) preaching on TULIP. I just sat here and cried and cried.

I look forward to Sunday and dialling up the services to listen to Rev Robin Tso! It was such a joy to meet him on his recent visit to Ulverstone and hear his sermon on the everlasting arms (Deut. 33:27).

I am very thankful for all my children. They have been blessed with good health and homes.

My two daughters have been a great Christian support and God has greatly blessed me.

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## Brisbane

[Report by Jim Klazinga]

Our Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Friday, 4 June, preceded by a congregational dinner. Though numbers were small, we give thanks for the good spirit of fellowship manifested. Reports were submitted by various officers and activity leaders. It was moved and seconded "to record thanks for the Treasurer, auditor, Deacons' Court Clerk, Session Clerk, Psalm Singing leader, Sunday School leader and teachers (past & current), Women's Discussion Group leader, Young Adults leaders, Youth Group leaders, precentors, and the live-stream co-ordinator, with his assistants."

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## Carrum Downs

[Report by Ian Hall]

The congregation is thankful for the return to in person worship after our 4th Melbourne lockdown.

Also, we praise the Lord that over the past number of months, the Lord has been pleased to slowly but steadily increase the numbers of those who regularly worship with us. With the increased numbers, we are exceeding the number allowed in our main worship area (maximum of 20) but we are able to accommodate the excess numbers in the foyer & activity room.

Pray for continued easing of Covid related restrictions.

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## Hastings

[Report by John Forbes]

We are thankful to the Lord for the ongoing blessing and privilege of congregational life. Worship services continue to be well attended, and it has been a delight to have a number of our teens now regularly attending our mid-week study of the Westminster Confession.

Three of our number have been hospitalised or had operations in recent weeks, but we are thankful to the Lord that all three are home and recovering.

In recent months, we've organised some "extracurricular" activities, to be together in a more informal context. A congregational lunch after the morning service was well attended, with a number of visitors also joining us. In May Glen and Sonja Hamilton hosted a bonfire and dinner. In June we had a congregational bowling night.

The Deacons' Court has been progressing the sale of a small section of land at the rear of the

large church block at Wauchope, and Presbytery consent has now been granted to proceed.

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## Hawkesbury-Nepean

[Report by Julie Stewart]

A combined Church Picnic was held with St George's Congregation in May. We met at Garrison Point on the George's River. This is a lovely picnic area with good facilities, children's play areas, and opportunities for bush and river walks. It was a cold, blustery day, which deterred some. But those who did come enjoyed warm sheltered sunshine and fellowship. As we hadn't met for three years it was a time of catching up with old friends and my how the children had grown. We feasted on a Muldoon BBQ, with shared salads, desserts, cakes, and ice creams. This was enjoyed by all, and followed by a walk and some ball games.

We have also had our Congregational Meeting, where the Deacons presented reports and the finances were discussed. We



*Hastings young people at a recent congregational bowling night*



*Enjoying a lovely day at the Hawkesbury-Nepean / St George combined picnic*

are grateful for the Lord's provision and support given to us. This meeting was followed by a hearty meal and relaxing fellowship.

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#### **Hunter**

[Report by Ian Miller]

Although saddened by the loss, we thank our gracious God for the genuine faith and witness of our long standing member, Mrs Beryl Murray of Gloucester, who passed to glory on 7 May aged 96 years. We pray for her family and friends who mourn, that they may know the comfort available in and through Christ Jesus.

We give thanks for the recent admission to communicant membership of Mr Tasman Ellem, following examination by Session and a public profession of faith in Christ alone for salvation. Please remember him and his family in prayer.

A communion season has recently concluded. Worship

services, the Lord's supper and a fellowship lunch were enjoyed at the improved Raymond Terrace Church facilities. Rev Tso's helpful preaching and the "fencing of the table" contributed to the Lord's considerable blessing upon the sacrament to His assembled people.

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#### **Manning**

[Report by Rhoda Ball]

Stephen Smith (Peter and Leanne's youngest son) graduated on 22nd June as an officer of the Australian Army from Duntroon, Canberra.

[Editor's note: On Monday, 28 June, Stephen began a six-month posting at Enoggera Barracks in Brisbane.]

Two of our members are recovering from total knee replacements, including our regular news contributor, Joyce Bennett. Both are making good progress.

Since we are a congregation

with a large number of retirees, a number of our folks are currently doing the grey nomad thing.

We are enjoying and profiting from our midweek meetings on The Westminster Confession of Faith. The teaching and discussions are lively and interactive.

Some new people have been attending, which is always encouraging.

We have just resumed morning tea and monthly luncheons (observing covid restrictions) in an effort to promote friendship and fellowship.

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#### **Northern Rivers**

[Report by David Kerridge]

Please pray for Beth Seach, who is recovering from a fall.

Also, give thanks for a speedy recovery from a hip operation for Ken McLeod. Pray for patience with his ongoing rehabilitation. Pray for Catherine also as she cares for Ken.

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#### **St. George**

[Report by John MacCallum]

The venue St. George has been using on Wednesday and Sunday evenings is closed to all renters until 9 July. All the services, at least until then, are being pre-recorded, and the audio made accessible on the church's website and via telephone link-up at the regular service times.

Also, some slow progress is being made on the scaffolding situation, which needs to be resolved for steeple repairs to progress.

## The Vindicated Man

By George Ball

*The following is a summary of a sermon based on Psalm 26, preached by Rev. George Ball at Synod 2021, as part of opening devotions on Wednesday 5 May.*

Do you have a problem with this psalm?

David, in protesting his innocence, sounds like little Jack Horner, who sat in the corner, eating his Christmas pie. He put in his thumb, and pulled out a plum, and said, “What a good boy am I”!

David sounds like the self-righteous Pharisee bragging in the temple, “God, I thank you that I am not like other people - greedy, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of everything I get.” (Luke 18:11-12)

But remember, this is the very same David who wrote Psalm 25:7,11,18, and Psalms 32 and 51.

Looking at the whole of the psalm, in particular at verses 3a, 9a, 11b, these are hardly the words of a proud, self-satisfied, self-confident person. He knows he still needs mercy.

### An Appeal for Vindication (vs. 1-2)

He appeals to God, the perfect Judge, the One who possesses all the evidence, who knows the situation perfectly, to vindicate him and prove him innocent of the charges and accusations made against him.

Though he says, “I have walked in my integrity” and, “I walk in

your faithfulness,” he’s not claiming to be perfect or sinless, but describing the general tenor of his life.

It’s said elsewhere of David, “He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and did not turn aside from anything that God commanded him.” (1 Kings 15:5) His heart was devoted to God.

He was so confident of his innocence that he asked God to put him on trial. “Prove (judge) me and test my heart and mind.” (vs. 2)

It’s in the spirit of Psalm 139:23-24, “Search me, O God, and know my heart . . . if there is any wicked way in me, if there’s anything offensive, lead me in the everlasting way.”

Note:

- David’s life was an open book. He had nothing to hide. No scandal. He was not a Ravi Zacharias. He still trusted in the Lord.

What about you? Would you be happy to invite the LORD to come and “inspect the books” of your life?

- Though life is unfair, we can be confident of ultimate justice. David was being slandered and falsely accused, possibly by Absalom, as recorded in 2 Sam. 15. He pleads for justice.

But justice doesn’t always come in this life. But it will come.

Meantime, “Trust in the Lord and do good.” “Commit your way to the LORD.”

- While we may be the cause of many of our own troubles, it’s not

always the case. There is such a thing as innocent suffering. Think of Job and the man born blind in John 9.

- We shouldn’t jump to conclusions. Just because David was accused of many things, didn’t make them true. Jesus was also accused of many things, but that didn’t make them true.

Paul warns, ‘Don’t judge anything prematurely, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and reveal the intentions of the hearts.’ (1 Cor. 4: 5) We shouldn’t believe every accusation we hear.

### An Affirmation of His Integrity (vs. 3-8)

Verses 4-5: David describes his relationship to the wicked, described as: men of falsehood, hypocrites, evildoers, bloodthirsty men, whose hands are full of bribes (and verses 9-10). There’s echoes of Psalm 1:1, “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.”

When he says, “I do not sit,” this doesn’t mean he wouldn’t sit at a table to have a meal with them. ‘Sitting’ implies being identified with them, being one of them, being like them.

David practised biblical separation, not separatism. The world needs the presence of good men and women in it, as salt and light and leaven.

Verses 6-8: David expresses his desire to worship the Lord. His



hatred of evil gatherings in verse 5 is replaced by his love of God’s house in verse 8.

This is the heart of the psalm. David loved ‘church.’ And the Lord loves ‘church’ too. We read, “The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwelling places of Jacob.” (Ps. 87:2)

David Clarkson (1622-1686) preached a sermon on Psalm 87:2, giving 12 reasons why public worship is to be preferred before private. Here are a few of his reasons:

- In Revelation, Christ manifests Himself more clearly in public worship, because He dwells “in the midst of the churches.”
- Public worship is more edifying than private, because in private you provide for your own good, but in public you do good to both yourselves and others.
- There is more of the Lord’s presence in public worship than in private. He promises to be present with His people in a special way, more effectually, constantly and intimately.
- His greatest works are in public worship. Regeneration, conversion, etc., are usually accomplished through public worship. Do we appreciate the importance of public worship as we should?

## His Dedication and Assurance (vs. 11-12)

Verse 11 proves that David is not asserting his own sinlessness but looks to God for justification.

Verse 12 illustrates how confidence in the Lord and assertions of his own integrity unite. The level ground could

refer to the temple, but it’s also a metaphor for an upright moral life.

## Conclusion

We know this psalm doesn’t describe David completely. He may have been blameless of the specific allegations that gave rise to this psalm, but still he wasn’t perfect. Even at the end of his life he disobeyed by ordering a census (2 Samuel 24).

I would suggest therefore that this psalm cannot be about David ultimately - but about Christ.

• Christ could pray the opening verses. He walked in His integrity. He trusted in the Lord. His life was an open book. He was tested in the wilderness but did not fall. He was tempted in every way yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15).

He never slipped or faltered in any way. He was full of grace and truth.

• Christ was the victim of a malicious public smear campaign.

He endured verbal abuse (Hebrews 12:3).

He was insulted and falsely accused (1 Peter 2:22).

He was accused of blasphemy because He claimed to be the Son of God and had authority to forgive sins.

He was accused of being a sinner because He dined with tax-collectors and sinners

• Christ hated and denounced the hypocrisy and falsehood of the scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 23).

• Christ had zeal for God’s house, ‘for church,’ as seen when He cleansed the temple (John 2:14-17).

• Christ exercised unwavering

trust in His Father as seen in Gethsemane, “Not my will but yours be done,” and when He cried from the Cross, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” (Luke 23:46)

• Even though it seemed He was swept away with the wicked in His death (vs. 9), His prayer for redemption (vs. 11) and His vindication came on the third day when He was raised from the dead.

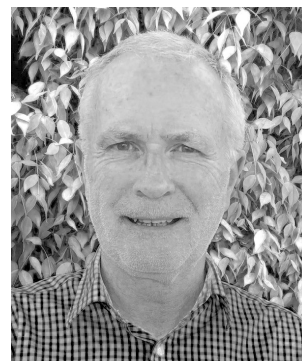
• Christ alone is qualified to lead the praise in the congregation of God’s people (vs. 12).

As we join with Jesus in singing this song, we can rejoice in our status before God. We’re pronounced ‘not guilty’ because of our faith in Christ.

Because He paid the penalty for our sin we are not condemned (Romans 8:1).

By faith in Christ, we stand on ‘level ground,’ which Calvin interprets as imputed uprightness, and join in the praise of the great assembly.

As His followers we are called to follow in His steps and be imitators of Him. Let us resolve then to have a godly hatred of the world’s values and “love the house where God dwells.”



*Rev. George Ball is pastor of the Manning PCEA, and was moderator of the 2021 synod meeting. He will continue in this post until the next full meeting.*

## July Search Work

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

SENIOR and INTERMEDIATE  
Intermediate omit questions 7 and 8

JUNIOR

### JUDGES Chapter 7:15—25

1. What did Gideon's men do as well as blowing the trumpets?
2. What was the reaction of the host of Midian?

### Chapter 8

3. What were the punishments of the men of Succoth and the men of Penuel for not helping Gideon? (2 verses)
4. What was Gideon's answer when he was asked to rule over Israel?
5. What became a snare to Gideon and his house?
6. What happened as soon as Gideon was dead? (3 verses)

### Chapter 9

7. In his parable, to what did Jotham compare Abimelech?
8. How was Abimelech killed?

### JUDGES Chapter 7

1. Why were the men with Gideon too many?
2. How many men lapped the water like a dog?
3. In the dream that Gideon overheard, what overturned the tent?
4. What words did the men shout when they blew their trumpets and broke their pitchers?

Find the verse(s) in the Bible that answer the questions, write/type them out, and send to:

Mrs Irene Steel

PO Box 942, Epping, NSW 1710

or Email: [iesteel@gmail.com](mailto:iesteel@gmail.com)

A book voucher is awarded at the end of each year to children who send in the answers.



## July Prayer Points

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” Romans 12:12

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**Thursday, 1st** - Give thanks for how Stephen Smith of the Manning congregation could graduate as an officer of the Australian Army. Pray for him as he takes up military service in the Enoggera Barracks in Brisbane (see page 7).

**Friday, 2nd** - Pray for the retired ministers in our denomination (J Cromarty, W Hanna, D Kumnick, T Leggott, K MacLeod, R Murray, P Smith, R Ward).

**Saturday, 3rd** - Pray for the vacant PCEA congregations (Geelong, Knox, and Ulverstone).

**Sunday, 4th** - Give thanks that, even though we are unworthy sinners, we can still approach God in worship, because of Jesus Christ.

**Monday, 5th** - Pray for the ministry of the All-Nations congregation in Melbourne.

**Tuesday, 6th** - Pray for the All-Nations office-bearers: for Rev Tut Wan Yoa, and for elders Isaac John and Jonah Gatluak.

**Wednesday, 7th** - Please pray for the Presbyterian Free Church of Central India and give thanks that we can support them.

**Thursday, 8th** - Pray for those who mourn the death of Mrs. Beryl Murray of the Hunter congregation (see page 7).

**Friday, 9th** - Give thanks for the increase in the number of people attending the Carrum Downs worship services (see page 6).

**Saturday, 10th** - Pray for the Ulverstone congregation's online study meetings being held on Saturday mornings (see page 3).

**Sunday, 11th** - Pray that our worship services today will assist those attending in turning their eyes to the power of the resurrection.

**Monday, 12th** - Pray for the ministry of the Knox congregation in Melbourne.

**Tuesday, 13th** - Pray for the Knox office-bearers: for Rowland Ward serving as interim moderator, and for elders John Loudon and Chris White.

**Wednesday, 14th** - Please pray for the Dumisani Theological Institute in South Africa and give thanks that we can support this school.

**Thursday, 15th** - Pray for the ministry of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Australia, and of the Southern Presbyterian Church of Australia. Pray for our relationship and contact with them.

**Friday, 16th** - Give thanks for the work of God in the life of Mrs. Jean Hearps of the Ulverstone congregation (see pages 4-5)

**Saturday, 17th** - Pray for the easing of covid restrictions in our states.

**Sunday, 18th** - Pray for the reading and hearing of Scripture taking place in the worship services conducted in our congregations today.

**Monday, 19th** - Pray for the ministry of the Mt Druitt congregation in West Sydney.

**Tuesday, 20th** - Pray for the Mt Druitt office-bearers: for Rev Dennis Muldoon; for elders Alec Neil, and Tom Reeve; and for deacon Allan Stewart.

**Wednesday, 21st** - Please pray for Dr Dickson in Delhi, India, and give thanks that we can support his work.

**Thursday, 22nd** - Give thanks for the opportunities for friendship and fellowship in our congregations (see pages 6-7).

**Friday, 23rd** - Pray for the members of the Manning congregation who are recovering from total knee replacements (see page 7).

**Saturday, 24th** - Give thanks for Tasman Ellem's admission to communicant membership in the Hunter congregation (see page 7).

**Sunday, 25th** - Give thanks that we can gather for worship today without fear of what man can do to us, because we worship the Almighty God.

**Monday, 26th** - Pray for the ministry of the St Georges congregation in Sydney.

**Tuesday, 27th** - Pray for the St George office-bearers: for Rev John McCallum; for elders Donald Kerr, Donald McIntosh, and Alex Steel; and for deacons Chris Oakley, Ken Shaw, and Allan Steel.

**Wednesday, 28th** - Please pray for the Middle East Reformed Fellowship.

**Thursday, 29th** - Pray that progress may continue regarding the scaffolding situation which the St. George congregation has had to deal with (see page 7).

**Friday, 30th** - Give thanks and pray for the children and young people in our congregations.

**Saturday, 31st** - Pray for Ken McLeod of the Northern Rivers congregation as he continues to recover from a hip operation (see page 7).



