

the advocate

"What the Bible teaches us is that unlike much secular leadership today, success isn't just around the corner."

LLOYD PORTER PAGE 13>>

In conversation Keith Jobberns talks about the state of Baptist churches in Australia PAGE 12 >>

14 Baptist homes destroyed

Catastrophic fires that devastated New South Wales last month have claimed the homes of 14 families from Baptist churches.

At the time of going to press, almost 200 homes had been destroyed in the Springwood/Winmalee area.

Baptist ministries in NSW affected by the fires included 20 churches, the Kiah Ridge campsite which had to be evacuated, a school and an aged care centre. None of these properties were damaged.

At Springwood in the Blue Mountains, fire destroyed the homes of ten Baptist families. The homes of two families from Hawkesbury Valley Baptist Church and two from Glenbrook Baptist were also destroyed.

Springwood Baptist Church Secretary Clive Dillen told *The Advocate* accommodation has been found for all the Springwood families.

"Patrick Adel and his family were already under pressure with his wife in an induced coma following brain surgery when the fires struck," Clive said.

"Now they have lost their home and their two children are struggling a bit – we've found accommodation for them already."

"Some families are just in short-term places but others are in medium and long-term accommodation."

"We're working alongside other groups, backing up government agencies and groups like the Salvos."

"We're working with Samaritan's Purse, distributing kits that will help with immediate

basic personal needs and we're collecting cash to help with medium and long-term needs," Clive said.

Springwood Baptist Church is also offering leadership to local groups, including sport and community support clubs.

“**At Springwood in the Blue Mountains, fire destroyed the homes of ten Baptist families.**”

"We're pretty clear about what we can offer – we're a church and our primary focus is offering counselling, care, friendship and prayer," Clive said.

Many local businesses are conducted from home offices and the church has offered office space with Wi-Fi access at the church to local businesses and politicians.

As well as providing financial assistance to those who have lost all of their possessions, the church is offering counselling and acting as a hub where people can meet and talk through their loss and grief.

"Please ask your readers to pray for us," Clive said.



Photo: Tim Hunter

Patrick Adel stands in front of what was the Adel family home in Winmalee, NSW. His church family at Springwood Baptist Church is helping the family as they start on their journey of a fresh beginning.

"We want to be seen, trusted and useful now with the immediate trauma still happening around us, and on into the mid-term and long-term – we want to be relevant."

Calling for people to pray that all church people would respond with grace, Clive implored people to not judge those who may not have taken out insurance.

"And pray for healing for our whole community, including those who no longer have their homes," Clive said.

"Pray we will take all the opportunities we get to talk with people about Jesus and His love and care."

With fires in the area continuing to burn and threaten

more homes, church leaders at times felt overwhelmed as they heard more stories of pain and grief being inflicted on the people in their communities.

The full toll of the fires will not be appreciated for some weeks and it will take a very long time for families to recover and get back on their feet.

The Advocate readers' prayers will be valued by all those affected now and into the future.

Baptist Churches Western Australia Director of Ministries, Mark Wilson encouraged churches to contribute to the NSW/ACT Bush Fire Appeal.

"Visit www.mybaptistchurch.org.au/donations to make a tax deductible donation to the Bush Fire Appeal," Mark said.



5 A new generation of support

Gavin Douglas' Grandad's work helps him to connect with Aboriginal inmates >>



7 Sportsfest a winner

Early spring rain did nothing to dampen competitor enthusiasm at the annual Sportsfest >>



11 No holiday at Bangkok Hilton

Ellen Broerse is preparing her 19th visit to some of Thailand's worst prisons >>

“**Building healthy churches.**”

BAPTIST CHURCHES
WESTERN AUSTRALIA





Steve Ingram

Steve Ingram is Leadership Development Consultant with Baptist Churches Western Australia.

Power relationships – Ezekiel 34

In an age prevalent with Royal Commissions, the church is again looking carefully at leader-follower relationships and considering the importance of boundaries.

It shouldn't take government pressure or social expectations to force widespread reflection on matters the Bible makes explicit and clear.

In Ezekiel 34:2-4 we read:

'Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds, the leaders of Israel. Give them this message from the Sovereign Lord: What sorrow awaits you shepherds who feed yourselves instead of your flocks. Shouldn't shepherds feed their sheep? You drink the milk, wear

the wool, and butcher the best animals, but you let your flocks starve. You have not taken care of the weak. You have not tended the sick or bound up the injured. You have not gone looking for those who have wandered away and are lost. Instead, you have ruled them with harshness and cruelty.' (NLT)

In any leadership role, the onus is on that individual to ensure their motivation and actions are guided by the needs of the follower, not their own.

God makes it abundantly clear in scripture that the leader's role is one of stewardship, not ownership, in regard to the sheep He gives into the leader's care. When we take what is not ours to take, we are stealing not only from the sheep but from God Himself.

It is common for a leader, when confronted about inappropriate behaviour, to try and justify taking advantage of a follower with excuses like 'they

initiated it', or 'it was as much what they wanted as what I wanted'.

Leaders must take responsibility for their actions knowing that they answer to God, not just to humans. Healthy self-awareness and personal boundaries (internal integrity), as well as good accountability and church procedures (external integrity), are needed to maintain healthy leader-follower relationships.

Preventative action is far more helpful than simply caring after the fact. Some things that are stolen can never be returned and some wounds leave lasting scars.



Dr Brian Harris

Dr Brian Harris is the Principal of Vose Seminary and Senior Pastor of Carey Community Baptist Church.

Not such a bloodthirsty book ...

Ever heard people mutter, 'But the Bible is such a bloodthirsty book?'

On more than one occasion I have been asked to defend the moral vision of the Bible, particularly that of the Old Testament, because of the many corpses scattered across its pages.

A quick reading could give the impression that God is very one-sided, caring about the Israelites but having little time for anyone else. While the loss of Hebrew lives on the Bible's battlefields is seen as tragic, Canaanite, Philistine and Egyptian carcasses don't really seem to matter.

A clearer insight into the heartbeat of God is given in 1 Chronicles 22:6-10 and 28:1-3. In these passages, David explains that God had forbidden him to build the temple because the warfare with which he was associated excluded him from the project. For its time, this is radically counter-cultural, especially as ancient kings routinely built temples to thank their gods for military victories.

These passages are fascinating. After all, David's many military victories are

attributed to God's help. David would never have defeated the giant Goliath unless God had made it possible. Why then does God decline David's services as temple builder? We must conclude that whilst God agreed that the brokenness of David's time required tough military action, God was unwilling for warrior imagery to be associated with the temple. In short, God makes it clear that warfare is a tragic consequence of human evil, and that it will never have the last word.

Isaiah 2:4 imagines a day when swords will be beaten into ploughshares and spears made into pruning hooks. This

is what we should long for and work towards. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 5:9 that it is peace makers, not peace breakers, who are the children of God. When placed in the impossible situation of having to choose between bad and worse, it is true that warfare was sometimes seen as the lesser evil, but to imagine it is therefore God's ideal is to ignore the witness of the temple David didn't build.



Craig Siggins

Craig Siggins is Pastor at Yangebup Baptist Church.

Disabling prejudices

With International Day of People with Disability coming up on 3 December, I want to remind readers how important it is to engage, encourage and include people with disabilities into your church community.

This is a topic I am very passionate about – even more passionate than supporting the Dockers!

About 20 percent of people in Australia have a recognised disability and another ten percent care for people with a disability.

Yet, of the 19 percent of Australians who attend church regularly, only five percent are people with disabilities do. [Luke 14/CBM and ABS/NCLS]

I enjoy working with people with disabilities – there are times

of great blessing, but also struggle, disillusion and despondency.

So what can you do? Well, not ignore them; you can engage with them, ask them how they are going, be friends with them, volunteer to help (or help their often overwhelmed carers), be employed as a support worker, and encourage your church to be more proactive with people with disability.

There are also some great books you can read by Jean

Vanier, Thomas Reynolds and Henri Nouwen. Of course the Bible is your most valuable resource in this area.

Henri Nouwen, a Catholic theologian who gave up his tenure at Harvard University to work with mentally and physically disabled people, said:

"Jesus speaks through the broken hearts of the handicapped, who are considered marginal and useless. But God has chosen them to be the poor through whom he

makes his presence known. This is hard to accept in a success and production-oriented society." [Henri Nouwen, *The Road to Daybreak – A Spiritual Journey*, p.19]

Yangebup Baptist Church will be holding their annual Disability Service to celebrate International Day of People with Disability on Sunday 1 December. Bellevue Baptist Associate Pastor and PhD student Carmel Wright, sister to and then mother of a disabled person, will be the guest speaker.

Disable your prejudices and engage with the disabled. God will bless you.

letters to the editor

send us your letters

The Advocate welcomes your letters to the editor on topics of concern to you and the community. Send your letters of no more than 100 words to editor@theadvocate.tv by the 10th of each month.

Five new pastors accredited

More than 150 people from Baptist churches across the state attended the Annual Assembly of the Baptist Churches Western Australia at Yokine Baptist Church on 12 October.

Yokine's worship team led a vibrant segment of contemporary worship before the entire gathering broke into small groups to pray for the work and ministry of the Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA).

Australian Baptist Ministries National Ministries Director, Keith Jobberns inspired and challenged the group when he spoke on the state of the Baptist churches across Australia. (See page 12 for an interview with Keith.)

A highlight of this year's meeting was the presentation of five newly accredited pastors. BCWA Church Liaison Consultant Steve Ingram introduced each of the new pastors before the Accreditation Team prayed for them, setting them apart for the ministry of God's Kingdom through Baptist Churches Western Australia.

Each pastor gave a succinct three minute testimony about the highlights of their life journey.

Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church Youth Pastor Chris Green is currently on sabbatical living with his wife and son in Albany where she is a doctor.

Pastor Gavin Douglas is



Director of Ministries Mark Wilson presents certificates and Bibles to the newly accredited pastors.

Photo: Jill Birt

based at Carey Community Baptist Church and works as a Prison Chaplain at Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

Pastor Peter Randell is Youth Pastor at Waratah Christian Community just south of Mandurah.

Pastor David Wager has recently concluded as pastor at Gnowangerup Baptist Church and is considering future ministry plans.

Pastor Sheldrin D'Rozario from Riverton Baptist Community Church is Chaplain at Osborne Park Hospital.

Pastors Neil Brandon and Bruce Miller's accreditation as Baptist pastors was confirmed at the meeting.

Darren Chua from Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church was elected as a member of the Baptist Union of Western Australia Council.

The Katanning Karen Baptist Church was accepted as a Member Church within the Baptist Churches Western Australia.

The Katanning Karen Baptist Church began in early 2010 when a group of Karen people moved to Katanning to work in the local abattoir. Cross Cultural and Indigenous Ministries Consultant Marc Chan worked with the group to establish a Karen Baptist Church in the town. Many of the 35-member congregation initially moved

to Katanning after arriving in Australia as refugees.

A highlight of the Assembly was a group of 20 Karen young people who drove from Katanning to sing at the meeting. Their vitality and exquisite harmonies captivated the audience who responded by giving a standing ovation.

Marc Chan announced a new church plant, the WA Matu Baptist Church, which began early in 2013. Originally from the northern region of Burma, this group now meets at the Baptist Ministry Centre on Sunday afternoons.

BCWA Director of Ministries Mark Wilson reported there were 333 baptisms across the

state in the past 12 months, including 44 at the campuses of 1Church (Mandurah, Lakelands and Austin Cove) and ten at Gnowangerup.

Mark also mentioned an increase of 16 congregations, including the two new Paradox Church congregations (Palmyra and Armadale), Grace Community Church (South Fremantle), Shalom Community Church (Forrestfield), the International Evangelical Church which meets in Balga and the Sudanese congregation that is part of Yokine Baptist Church.

Newly re-appointed Principal of Vose Seminary Dr Brian Harris and BCWA Business Manager Terry Hicks outlined plans for a building program at the Seminary. Current facilities could not cope with the more than 100 full-time students currently training at the Seminary.

Dr Harris stays

Vose Seminary Principal Dr Brian Harris received a resounding vote of confidence as he was re-appointed to the position for a further term at the Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) Annual Assembly on 12 October.

Dr Harris first took the helm at the beginning of 2004 and has guided the seminary through a phase of rapid growth and development during this decade.

Support for Dr Harris at the BCWA Annual Assembly was overwhelming with 90 percent of delegates voting in favour of the appointment.

Recognised for his preaching, teaching and writing talents, Brian has earned a reputation for his understanding of the Christian church and

his insights which inform how he serves on the board of several church, educational and mission organisations.

Pastor at large and Chairman of the Board of the Carey Community in Perth's southern suburbs, Dr Harris is also member of the editorial board of the revamped *Pacific Journal of Baptist Research* and a regular contributor to *The Advocate*.

The new appointment commences on 1 January 2014 for a term of three years.

Camps go digital

Online registrations are now available for Juniors and Inters camps at Serpentine in January 2014.

Priscilla Penn from Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) said this was the first time BCWA had been able to process team member registrations online.

"I'm sure people are going to be very happy to be able to register whenever they have time to do so," Priscilla said. "It's just so convenient."

The theme for the 2014 summer camps is *The Incredible Race*.

Inters camp will be held from 2 to 6 January for students in Years 8 to 10, while the Juniors camp will run from 7 to 11 January for children in

Years 4 to 7.

Both groups can register online for the camps at www.baptistwa.asn.au before they close on Friday 6 December.

Team members for both camps can also register online.

More news about the camps will be posted on the camps' Facebook pages:

- **Juniors:** www.facebook.com/BCWACHildren
- **Inters:** www.facebook.com/BCWAYouth



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Ministries expo



Photo: Jill Birt

Vose students try out playing soccer with foam noodles, which many Bethanie senior citizens enjoy.

Christian agencies and churches showcased ministry and work opportunities for Vose Seminary students at its inaugural Vose Expo held in late September.

Agencies including BaptistCare, Bethanie, Churches of Christ, Global Interaction, Scripture Union, YouthCare and Baptist Churches Western Australia sent representatives to share their information at the event.

Groups hosted booth displays and distributed information about the range of experiences available to explore. Representatives each spoke for eight minutes in the Seminary's chapel about their group's work and highlighted the extensive ministry opportunities available to graduates.

Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) Director of Ministries Mark Wilson introduced several ministries available through BCWA ranging from administrative jobs in the Baptist Ministry Centre and local churches, to pastoral roles in local churches and camps,

children's and youth workers and communications specialists.

Bethanie Chaplain and Vose graduate Kerryn Monger organised a demonstration game of Bethanie's style of soccer where student teams of three sat facing the opposing team and scored goals using a small ball with foam noodles. Many senior citizen residents at Bethanie aged care homes enjoy playing this style of soccer.

"Aged care is so much more than keeping senior citizens safe," Kerryn said.

"Our people love this game. It can get quite competitive!"

Global Interaction's Western Australia State Director Colin Meadows said he had significant conversations with several students who were keen to explore cross-cultural work options.

YouthCare's team shared the joys and significance of chaplaincy work in Western Australian schools and Scripture Union's workers described the fulfilment and challenges of working with a wide variety of children and young people across the state.

Vose Mission Director Lloyd Porter said last year the Seminary had hosted a similar expo for the 14 mission agencies that have partnered with Vose Seminary.

"It's a critical time while students are still preparing to be involved in ministry for them to be able to talk with people who have experience in the areas the students are still dreaming about," Lloyd said.

"I believe this Expo is just as critical for the students."

Vose Seminary Principal Dr Brian Harris was impressed with the preparation and presentation from the various agencies and churches.

With new students studying at the Seminary each year, there is plenty of potential for even more impact and influence from future exos.

Newest leader



Photo: Laura McRae

Neil Anderson with BaptistCare CEO Dr Lucy Morris.

Neil Anderson has been appointed Leader - Mission and Service to BaptistCare's Perth team.

Neil's background in pastoral care, anthropology and leadership has prepared him well for this role.

The values of the organisation – dignity and compassion in relationships; integrity and respect in personal and organisational behaviour; courage and justice in actions; stewardship of the responsibilities in their care and accountability for performances – are the values Neil will be translating into the caring work of the BaptistCare team.

Acknowledging the refining process that life, with its challenges and suffering, brings to people and groups, Neil understands how changes take place and become part of their core.

"Though we live out our values in the heat of life and difficulty, and sometimes we struggle to express these perfectly, we can be confident if we hold them deeply at the centre of all we do, they will be purified," Neil said.

"The imperfections will rise forth and be discarded. We will become better in who we are and how we serve and relate with others."

BaptistCare is forging ahead with its aim to work with excellence in every area of service to some of the often forgotten and isolated people in communities.

These people have needs that can be overlooked or ignored by corporations working too strictly to a program.

digital church

23/09/2013
Carlos Whittaker
Ragamuffinsoul.com

"Yesterday morning, many of us got up, got dressed, went to church and drank our coffee while we sang some songs and listened to a talk about our faith in Jesus. Yesterday morning, some brothers and sister in Christ on the other side of the world got up, got dressed, got nervous, prayed for their safety, went to church and were killed, because they profess their faith in Jesus. 78 of them. 78 of us. One church. Our church.

02/10/2013
Kent Shaffer
churchrelevance.com

"... the most striking moves of God I see often seem grassroots and unorganised in such a way that nobody can take the credit except for God. Many moves of God are mundane in institutional appearance but radical in local impact."

11/10/2013
Dan King
biblede.net

"When you become aware of a problem, you are suddenly accountable to do something about it."

14/10/2013
Steven Furtick
stevenfurtick.com

"There is no guarantee that once we place our faith in the hands of Christ, that our lives will suddenly, magically improve. In fact, we often find that it's quite the opposite. But as Christians, our lives fortunately are not dependent on the outcome of our circumstances, no matter how shaky and unstable they may become."

briefs

Baptisms

John Packard and Mark Preston were baptised at Cranbrook Baptist Church on 22 September.

Dedication

Lincoln Neil Preston, son of Neil and Dallis Preston was dedicated at Cranbrook Baptist Church on 22 September.

Marriage

Michael Webster (formerly from Albany Baptist Church) and Clare Beech (Cranbrook Baptist Church) were married at Stephen and Carly Beech's family farm in Tenterden by Pastor Henry Harding on 14 September.

GI stamp program

Global Interaction stamp program volunteers raised almost \$70,000 in 2013 from churches and individuals collecting stamps and buying stamps from Global Interaction. For more information, visit www.globalinteraction.org.au/Support/Stamps.

Public Meeting

The Baptist Historical Society of Western Australia AGM will be held at Como Baptist Church at 2.30pm 10 November. Pastor Karen Siggins will be speaking on 'Women in Pastoral Ministry in WA'. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Rhoda on 9384 5460.

Hope for Aboriginal inmates

Newly accredited Baptist Pastor Gavin Douglas has a long family history of serving in God's Kingdom.

Gavin's grandparents, Wilf and Beth Douglas, worked for decades learning and recording Aboriginal languages from Warburton through to the Northern Territory.

"For the last few years I've been working as a chaplain inside WA's prisons – Casuarina, Hakea, Bandyup and Banksia Hill," Gavin said.

"I can't tell you how many times prisoners have asked me who I am and, when I tell them I'm Wilf Douglas' grandson, they smile and say 'I remember Old Wilf'.

"Who would have thought my Grandad's work for all those years would be helping me so much to connect with Aboriginal inmates."

Gavin's parents, Rob and Robyn Douglas, have also been practicing their faith in very practical ways in Western Australia's country towns, including Carnarvon, Derby and Geraldton. Both are now on the staff of Maida Vale Baptist Church.

"I remember as a kid in Carnarvon and Derby, Dad would take me and my brother in the car when he visited people who were down-and-out," Gavin said.

"They lived their faith in Jesus in very practical ways."

Gavin and his wife Alana hold similarly strong convictions about the importance of exercising their faith in practical ways and she whole-heartedly supports Gavin's ministry.

"I guess the only difference for us is that I don't bring my work home," Gavin said.

"We've agreed that while we have young children, there won't be any crossover between work and home. That may change later."

Gavin began his personal journey of faith with Jesus at age 17. By 18 he sensed God calling him to train to be better prepared to minister to people.

He studied at Vose Seminary before working with Fusion Australia for a year and was youth pastor at Como Baptist Church for a further year before focusing his energies and gifts on chaplaincy work in Western Australia's prison system.

"Eighty percent of the inmates at Banksia Hill are Aboriginal guys from all over the state," Gavin said.



Gavin Douglas and his wife Alana have found the work done by his grandparents among Aboriginal people helpful for Gavin's prison chaplaincy work.

"I have a strong affinity with Aboriginal people, so working at Banksia Hill Detention Centre fits with me."

Gavin talked about how his history helps him forge bonds with those he ministers to, such as one day early in his work as a prison chaplain when he walked

into Casuarina Prison and heard someone call his name, only to find it was an Aboriginal man who had lived next door to the Douglas family in country WA.

Gavin has continued to build strong relationships with Aboriginal men during his time as chaplain.

"It's so humbling to be taught Aboriginal language day by day by an older Aboriginal man in Casuarina. It's empowering him to teach me," Gavin said.

"I sense God has gifted me with discernment."

"People often come with one need but it's actually something different."

Gavin is very comfortable working with a wide range of people from white collar workers to homeless men.

"The greatest joy for me is seeing someone experiencing the hope of a brighter future; seeing the seeds of belief in themselves," Gavin said.

"It's humbling to see committed Christians inside our prisons discipling people to live for Jesus."

Karen people sing for God



Young people from the Katanning Karen Baptist Church travelled to Perth to sing at the BCWA Annual Assembly.

Three-and-a-half years on from re-settling in regional WA and establishing the Katanning Karen Baptist Church, 20 young people from the Burmese congregation made the trip back to Perth last month to celebrate becoming official members of Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA).

The delegation gave a vocal performance at BCWA's Annual Assembly at Yokine Baptist Church testifying God's faithfulness and Australia's welcome to the group.

Prior to their arrival in Australia, the group had fled their homeland and existed for years in refugee camps on the Thai-Burma border.

Despite their first hand experience of loss and suffering,

the vibrancy of grateful hearts responding to God's faithfulness and generosity was evident in their song.

Three families made the initial trek to the Great Southern and rented homes in Katanning to take up work at a local abattoir.

Today about 80 Karen people attend the church and several families have bought homes in Katanning where the young people are confident English speakers and doing well at their local primary and high schools.

The Karen people place a high value on music, poetry and art, giving unique opportunities for song writers, musicians, singers, dancers and artists to express their faith in Jesus in vibrant ways.

The Katanning Karen Baptist Church cooperates well with Katanning Baptist Church and is honoured and applauded by the local Katanning community for their successful integration into the country town.

Jairus Maung and Breena Benny are pastors of the congregation and Soe Pwell Moo Kwa is the secretary.

Camping with Kev

Baptist Churches Western Australia has taken a fresh approach to its camping program with the appointment of Kevin Black as its new Baptist Camps Coordinator.

Kevin brings a wealth of experience and training to the one year contract role.

With a background in high school physical education and school chaplaincy, Kevin's work as a youth pastor will help ensure the program's future sustainability and its focus on developing a healthy camping ministry is maintained.

"Initially we'll focus on the Inters and Juniors camps in January and July, working with the existing team leaders," Kevin said.

"Then I'll look at 'what happens next' – when young people graduate from Inters."

"There are already events and programs in place so I'll be looking at where the camping ministry fits in with this age group."

Craig Palmer welcomed Kevin to the new role, saying that as

well as praying for him and the camping ministry, churches can show their support by sending their young people and youth leaders to camps.

"Kev's heart to see young people be activated in faith and service to God will be a strong asset as we seek God's purpose for the future of CYYA Baptist Camping," he said.

Kevin believes camping has significant value in leadership development and acts as an important source of ongoing support at local churches.

"Camps are life changing," Kevin said.

"Young people make lifelong friendships, develop skills and have experiences which are significant in shaping their future."

Pray for the people



Photo: Global Interaction

The Bengali people from Bangladesh are one of the people groups Global Interaction is focusing on during the Just Prayer Australia-wide event in November.

Passionate prayer, worship and music are top of the bill for a special gathering of people from WA's Baptist churches this month aimed at raising awareness of ways to help the world's least reached people groups.

Of the 16,000 people groups around the globe, Australian cross-cultural mission agency Global Interaction said more than 7,000 are considered least reached, where less than one percent of their populations follow Jesus and Christians in nearby areas are not reaching them.

Just Prayer is a national four day event being staged by the agency as a time of passionate and focused prayer for the world's least reached peoples.

Global Interaction's Young Adults Consultant in Western Australia Rachel Philp invited groups from churches across the Perth region to attend the event which she promised would not be an 'eyes closed, heads bowed' time for 'super-saints' to list their requests from God.

"We'll start with music and worship then spend some time praying for least reached people groups using a number of creative prayer stations set up around the place," Rachel said.

"There will be new ways to explore prayer using tools and aids other cultures often use in prayer, such as prayer beads, prayer trees, creating prayer

murals, prayer stones and flags, water prayers and string tying."

"There's going to be plenty of hands-on things to do as well as opportunities for reflective intercession."

"We're expecting groups from churches across the Perth region to come on the night."

Rachel said people will also be praying for workers to prepare, then go and work among the least reached peoples.

Currently 97 percent of Christian workers and resources are concentrated on the third of the world who already call themselves Christian.

Jill Birt, an advocate for a least reached group in Indonesia, said 40 percent of the world's population had never heard the story of Jesus and why He came to earth.

"The church worldwide has dedicated less than one percent of Christian workers and resources to share with them," Jill said.

"There is so much injustice in these statistics, and sometimes we can pray for years before there is tangible progress."

"Praying isn't seen as an exciting pastime - I think our view needs to change."

"Soaking prayer, consistent and faithful prayer, is shown to be a significant factor in emerging people group movements where large numbers of people from a particular people group meet Jesus across the world."

Just Prayer will be held at Lakeside Recreation Centre in North Lake on Saturday 9 November from 7.00pm.

For more information, email rphilp@globalinteraction.org.au.

The green army help Leavers



Photo: Leavers Green Team

Green Team 2012 volunteers making friends with Leavers.

With this year's Leavers week almost upon us, the Leavers Green Team is counting down the days until things kick off in Dunsborough on 25 November.

Earning its name from their distinctly coloured tops, the Green Team is a small 'army' of up to 200 volunteers from mostly Baptist churches, including past Leavers volunteering as their way to give something back.

The Green Team volunteers arrive a week before the event to help set up, then oversee the running of a nightly entertainment area called The Zone, a drug and alcohol free environment that provides a safer place for up to 8,000 Leavers to celebrate.

Leavers Green Team Coordinator Michelle Smoker said they had been involved in the Dunsborough event since

2005 and their combined presence with other agencies has contributed to a 96 percent reduction in arrests and a 58 percent reduction in costs incurred for repairs and clean-up.

"It's great to feel the buzz within the volunteers as they work within The Zone," Michelle said.

"They all have such a willingness to help out."

"It's also great when Leavers come up and say 'thank you'. That is why we do it - so we can help the Leavers have a safe and fun experience."

For more information, visit www.greenteamwa.org.au.

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Teams rise above adversity



Photo: Terry Hicks

The Woodvale Baptist Church team accepts the overall winner's trophy at this year's Sportsfest.

Early spring rain did nothing to dampen competitor enthusiasm at the annual Sportsfest held at Australind in Western Australia's South-West over the recent September long weekend.

With 31 teams this year comprising 1,200 competitors aged 16 to 28 years and 113 volunteers, the event presents significant logistical challenges.

Smaller country churches occasionally partner with city

churches, often producing very strong teams.

After several years competing in a combined church team, Beaumaris Baptist Church this year entered an individual team for the first time.

Event organiser Michelle Smoker said a new sport on this year's program was three-on-three basketball.

"There was a huge response and the competition was fierce," she said.

Event director Jeff Cross from Morley Baptist Church managed most of the programming fixtures which ranged from Connect Four and chess in the games division to hockey and netball sports.

The Sportsfest overall winner was Woodvale Baptist Church,

while Como Baptist Church won the 'small church' category. Teams with fewer numbers are selected for the 'small church' grouping on arrival based alternative criteria to even the playing field.

Woodvale first entered Sportsfest in 1997 and came close to winning in 2010 when they had 110 members in their team. Kieran Taylor led this year's winning Woodvale team to a jubilant victory.

"Sportsfest is brilliant," Kieran said.

"We had 60 team members and nine volunteers this year, and some of us invited friends to join our team for the weekend. We were so excited to win.

"We put people in teams with their friends and ended up winning bocce, tennis, Scrabble

and got runners-up in some other sports.

"It was amazing when they announced we'd won – our guys went crazy!"

The group shared mobile phone footage of the trophy presentation with the entire Woodvale Baptist Church's congregation at the following Sunday morning service so everyone could experience the team's elation.

"If it wasn't for the volunteers, it just wouldn't happen," Kieran said.

"We can't thank them enough."

This year's Sportsfest t-shirts and banner design competitions were both won by North Beach Baptist Church with their catchy phrase 'The Saviour who loved ... Despicable me'.

Como celebrate victory



Photo: Como Baptist Church

Como champions celebrating their Sportsfest win.

Como Baptist Church sent a team of seven girls, 14 guys, three volunteers and a few 'cheerers' to Sportsfest 2013, the eighth time the church has competed in the event, this year led by Michael Welten and Liam Austen.

The team spirit was strong for a small team and almost all the competitors played a sport

with everyone else on the team at some point.

"We don't have a youth pastor

at Como, but a couple of youth/young adult leaders," Michael said.

"Pastor Phil Smoker would love to be able to say he is a 'youth'ful pastor and filled in for our winning Frisbee team!"

The core team was from the young adult group at Como Baptist Church with some extras who had attended the Como church in the past, a couple who had been to a previous Sportsfest with the group and a couple of new faces.

"Our greatest successes came in indoor cricket, ultimate Frisbee and male indoor soccer," Michael said.

"Everyone said they had heaps of fun!"

"The victory really helped the young adults to bond over the experience and be able to celebrate our time together."

WORSHIP PASTOR .4

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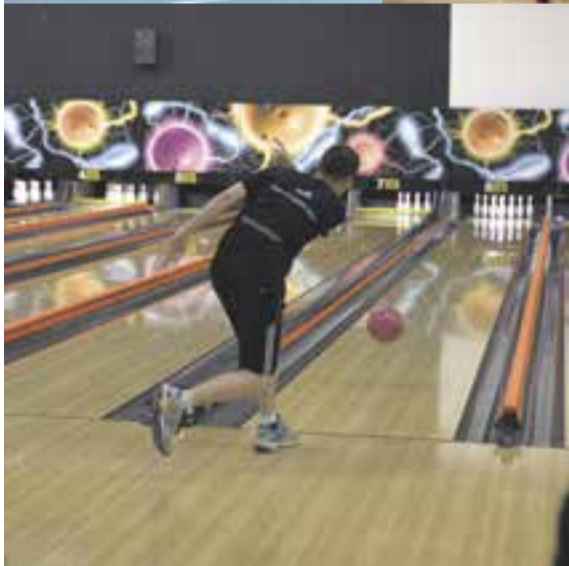
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MYTHUSTED



Sportsfest closes in style



Photo: Josh Blackwell

After a full day of competitions, Sportsfest participants had enough energy to dance before the Sunday night program.

Feeding pizza to 1,200 hungry athletes might sound like a logistical nightmare, but the organisers of this year's Sunday night program at Sportsfest handled the job without a hitch.

DJ Cornflake kept the music pumping as the competitors danced away their pizza-fuelled energy while the stage was set for a live band to lead the Sunday night worship gathering.

For those who have had little contact with a Christian

worship gathering, it was a new experience and an opportunity to show respect for the obviously deeply held beliefs of many at Sportsfest.

Vose Seminary honours student Dan McGrechan shared his experience as a youth pastor and spoke about

'Jesus' invitation to enter and participate in the Kingdom of God – God's dream for the world come true'.

"There was a sense during the worship and teaching of making space for God to stir hearts and call people to Himself – and we are praying that the fruit of these encounters will be seen for many years to come," Dan said.

"Over a dozen people made a first time faith commitment with many more taking significant steps toward deeper faith and obedience.

Baptist Churches Western Australia Director of Ministries Mark Wilson also reflected on the evening.

"I was impressed with the skill of the young leaders of the Sunday night event as they took the crowd from exuberant excitement to a reflective space where many seriously communed with God," he said.

Youth leaders from Baptist churches all over the state are continuing to follow up with and explore faith and spiritual journey with those who responded at Sportsfest.

Sportsfest results

Big Church	
Woodvale	426
Lake Joondalup	392
Riverton	371
Gosnells	351
Beaumaris	344
Lakeside	312
Mt Pleasant	304
Albany	302
Christian Reformed	292
North Beach	269
St Matthew's Anglican	227
Bentley	225
Carey	220
Mt Barker	202
Ellenbrook	196
Girrawheen	180
Rockingham	179

Small Church	
Como	530
Quinns	426
Mandurah	329
Yokine	328
Morley	319
East Fremantle	312
Waratah	252
East Victoria Park	248
Lesmurdie	237
City Network (Dalkeith)	160

- INTERS -

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Due: Friday 6th December

No holiday at Bangkok Hilton

Perth woman and founder of the Hope Behind Bars Ministry, Ellen Broerse, is preparing to make her 19th visit to some of Thailand's worst prisons where she will lead a team of volunteers charged with delivering a unique Christian reach-out program this November.

A member of the Claremont Baptist Church, Ellen established Hope Behind Bars on the message of Matthew 25:36-40: 'I was in prison and you visited me. What you did for others you did for me.'

"Prisoners come from third world countries and are serving life sentences for picking up a parcel of drugs in Bangkok," she said.

"Out of desperation at home, they chose to drug mule to earn a quick dollar. Many only did this once, security was tipped off, they were thrown into jail and are now suffering under horrendous circumstances

surrounded by cruelty and corruption."

"Many prisoners are very remorseful and repentant."

After realising the importance of a simple letter and what this means to a prisoner, writing letters to prisoners via pen pals became a major part of the Ministry's work.

"It brings renewed strength, hope and shows them God's love," Ellen said.

"Many of their own families have abandoned them and as a result of our letters, many have come to faith."

In an unprecedented highlight during her 2012 visit to Thailand, five prisoners were baptised at a prison on the remote Thai/Burma border.

"The men were baptised outside in a barbed wire enclosure, surrounded by prisoners and puzzled looking guards," Ellen said.

"We sensed all the angels rejoicing at this expression of faith by these five men."

"It is a rare privilege to be granted inside visits – often we are asked how this Australian team gets in when others cannot? We know God opens these doors for us."

Travelling by mini bus, this year the team hope to baptise 19



Pastor Howard baptises a prisoner in a Thailand jail.

Photo: Hope Behind Bars

people as they visit seven prisons, including the notorious Bangkok Kwang or 'Bangkok Hilton'.

"Our regular Thai driver used to be a Buddhist but is now a devout Christian and goes into the prisons with us to pray and talk with the prisoners," Ellen said.

Pen pals bless their prisoner with some finances at Christmas

to buy basics in the prison shop such as toiletries and stationery as nothing is provided.

"We don't all have to be travelling missionaries – we can be armchair missionaries by writing a lifeline letter just once every six weeks to make a difference," Ellen said.

"Our team asks for prayers for spiritual discernment and Godly

wisdom as we minister to the prisoners."

"We pray for leniency, and softening of the guards' hearts, for safety and protection and that many hearts and lives will be touched through our visit as a token and reflection of God's love."

For more information, visit www.hopebehindbars.net.

Digging deep for study leave



Photo: David Cohen

David Cohen's 'office' for two weeks while in Israel on a dig.

Vose Seminary's Head of Biblical Studies and Lecturer in Hebrew Bible and Language Dr David Cohen has just returned to Perth after two weeks on an archaeological dig in Israel.

The time in Israel was just one component of his study leave from teaching at Vose Seminary.

"The site we were at was Tell es Safi, probably better known to readers of the Bible as ancient

Gath," David said.

"It's about 20 kilometres south west of Jerusalem, overlooking the Elah valley where David fought Goliath."

Back in Australia, most

people David talks with about his time in Israel are very curious to learn what he digs up.

"I tell them 'Lots!'"

David said.

"I found pottery, bones, flint, ashes and seeds on a fairly consistent basis."

"Even digging up small things that are from the middle to late Bronze Age (1500 to 2000 BC) is exciting. Among the more spectacular finds this season was a room containing large pots which, although cracked, were found standing upright and in relatively good condition."

"In another area, an ivory carving was uncovered in a wall – probably some kind of dedication when it was built."

"For me, the experience was most beneficial for when we talk about biblical archaeology in our courses."

"It provided me with helpful insights into the process, the expertise involved and the care that needs to be taken in understanding what archaeology can and cannot provide."

"And just in case you're wondering, no I didn't find Goliath's sword!"

Iceland gospel revival

Late last September far away in Reykjavik, Iceland, people were streaming down the aisle in response to a Gospel message from Franklin Graham.

Tears of joy marked a watershed for what many believe is real hope for a revival in the island nation.

It normally takes a lot to move Reykjavik local Skuli Barker to tears, but what he witnessed that night in his country did it.

He'll be the first to tell you that emotional outbursts simply don't happen in Iceland.

"My wife was sobbing next to me," Skuli said. "And I started to cry – it's just amazing."

Initially a few people responded to Franklin Graham's Gospel message, and then there were throngs flooding the stage, elbow to elbow.

Hundreds of people packed in and the aisles clogged with people wanting to meet Jesus, wanting to pray out loud.

Skuli isn't overdramatic.

He's a native Icelander in his 40s and he's seen the state of Icelandic people when it comes to talking about God, or anything spiritual.

"There's a joke here that we are the 'Frozen Chosen'," Skuli said.

"But it's really true – in Iceland, people don't show their feelings. So for Icelanders to come forward to receive Jesus ..."

There was five years' worth of prayer from a core group of pastors and business leaders supporting the event.

For nine months, the Iceland Festival of Hope executive committee members had been working hard preparing for this event.

"It was like a child has been born in many ways," Festival of Hope Director Ragnar Gunnarsson said.

"A tremendous experience – this is what we have been praying for."

A healthy state of Christianity

Keith Jobberns, National Ministries Director of Australian Baptist Ministries, flew to Perth from Sydney to speak at the Baptist Churches Western Australia Annual Assembly on Saturday 12 October. *The Advocate* caught up with him during his brief visit.

You talked about the state of the Baptist churches in Australia. What are statistics saying?

We have 960 churches in Australia with 110 locations from Kununurra to Esperance in Western Australia. Australia-wide there are approximately 170,000 attendees of Baptist churches, of whom 62,700 are formal members. In the national 2011 Census, 352,499 identified themselves as Baptists. In WA, 41,672 people identified themselves as Baptist, an increase of 27.3 percent from the 2006 Census. So, we're the third largest worshipping community in Australia: Catholics 1,000,004; Anglicans 214,378; Baptists 170,178; Uniting Church of Australia 167,000; Pentecostals 148,900. These figures are for people attending at least once a month. One of the greatest surprises in the analysis of the 2011 Census data was to see that the Baptists were growing faster than almost every other denomination – and even faster than the Pentecostals. Over the years, it has been interesting to see many of the other denominations shrink, but the Baptists have continued to grow about the same rate as the population.

What do you see as the strengths of Baptist churches in Australia?

We have extensive engagement with the Australian community through the provision of social services by Baptist Care Australia and then through Global Interaction and Baptist World Aid Australia there's a significant transformational ministry in places as diverse as Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Mozambique, China, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Are there specific characteristics of the Baptist churches that are strengths?

Philip Hughes and Darren Cronshaw recently published an e-book called *Baptists in Australia: A Church with a Heritage and a Future*. They've done a great job of distilling the essence of what it means to be Baptist in Australia.

One of the first strengths they cite is Christology, what we believe about Jesus. In almost every one of our churches there is an emphasis on personal commitment to faith and the lordship of Jesus as expressed in baptism. The centrality of baptism ensures that Baptists are highly committed. I've talked with other national church leaders about this and had some say they that this is not the case for them. There are debates over who Jesus is. We don't have that. Jesus is the core around which we gather. He's the one who has changed our lives. This reflects in another statistic: 63 percent of Baptists are at church once a month, compared with just 20 percent of Uniting Church people, and 9 percent of Anglicans.

So the place of Jesus Christ is central. Anything else?

Secondly is ecclesiology – how we gather together. There's a lot of flexibility in Baptist churches due to the emphasis on the local church – flexibility to try different things, to be innovative, to adapt to the needs and interests of the local people; and be flexible in finding the right leadership for the local congregation. It's happening right here in the centre of Perth. Bob Touchell leads the inner-city Perth Baptist Church. They're engaging with backpackers who are in WA on a visa for up to a year. The church's bible readings on Sunday mornings are now in four languages – English, Korean, Chinese and Japanese. They're seeing people meet Jesus and seeing lives changed through friendship, engaging with God's Word, support and meals. I believe there have been baptisms too.

Any other distinctives?

Hospitality is a strong theme. Baptists have been hospitable to people of all races and all backgrounds. Migrant communities have made a huge difference over the years. The number of Baptist immigrants in the last decade 2001 to 2011 was 42,000, which is equivalent to all Baptist immigrants in the



Photo: Jill Birt

previous 30 years from 1971 to 2000. Baptists have made great efforts to accommodate them. They have been a major source of our growth and we have provided them a home. Here in WA, there are already several strong faith communities of refugees from Burma and growing groups of people of faith from Sudan and other African countries. They've come to find a safe place and they've found it in Australia. Another development is Christian schooling. It's proving to be a unique way to engage local communities. WA is a ground-breaker in the country with a strong network of schools from Albany to Kalgoorlie and across the suburbs of Perth.

What do you see in the future?

The National Church Life Survey (NCLS) has shown over the last decade that Baptists are much better involved in the community. We have got beyond the walls of the church. However, what the NCLS survey also showed was that we seemed to have lost our voice. We are less involved in faith sharing than we were ten years ago. So here is the challenge: if the local church is God's instrument to change human history [Ephesians 3:10], then all of us in church leadership roles need to affirm our commitment to our call to prepare God's "people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" [Ephesians 4:12]. The great privilege for us all

is this gracious call by God to be in partnership with His Son our Lord Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit to be about transforming the destiny of people and their communities in Australia and beyond.

What aspects of preparing God's people do you see we need to focus on?

We need to make a sustained and concerted effort to equip people to engage with others about their journey of faith as we discern where God is at work, and join the Spirit there. It's one of those things that it's easy to

lose focus on but we need to give constant attention, training, prayer, and funding to. We need to be bold to experiment and supportive of those who do experiment.

For you personally?

Personally, I'm overwhelmed by God's calling on my life. It's a privilege to be in partnership. I don't feel worthy, but I have a strong commitment to live faithfully to the calling. Lord let it happen increasingly here in WA – new church plants, local communities, ethnic groups. The Kingdom coming on earth.

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By Mark Cole

At The John Maxwell Company, we commonly refer to the idea of the 360 degree leader. John has helped people realise everyone is a leader because each of us has the opportunity to lead up, lead across and perhaps lead down. All month, we have been discussing the value of assessment. I want to take a moment and consider what it looks like to apply the 360 degree concept to assessments.

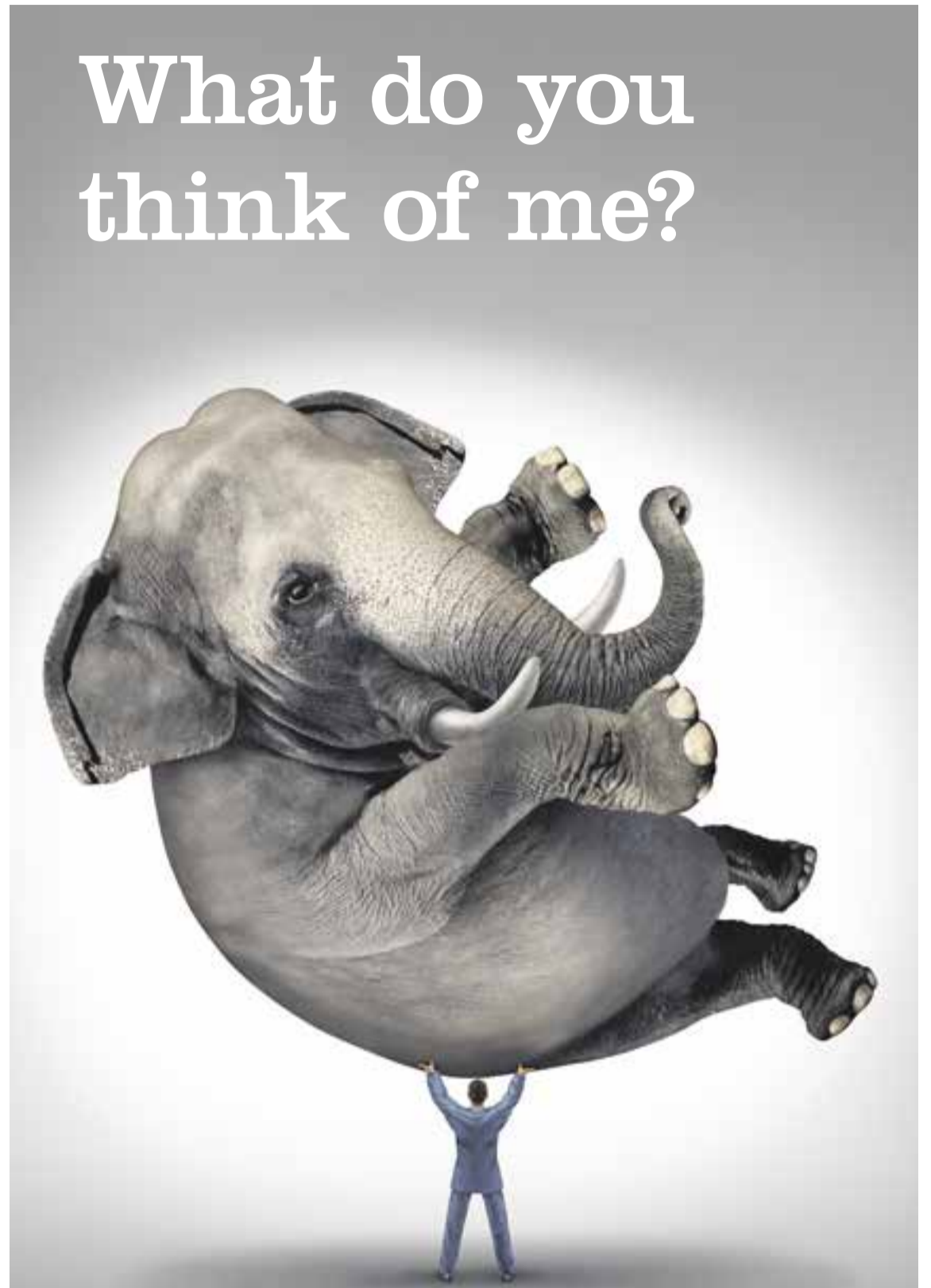
The discipline of assessing is huge. Assessments provide a realistic picture of our strengths and weaknesses. They allow us to see potential pitfalls, address them and intentionally live out of our strengths. Intuitively, we understand the value of assessments – think about how we have our houses assessed for safety before moving in, or how we assess the value of a car before making a purchase. We want to know what we are getting before purchasing – this allows us to know what to expect and offers perspective on how we can leverage that asset in a way that aligns with its strengths. In the same way, we need to subject ourselves to assessments so we can learn from them and become more desirable employees, co-workers and leaders.

To get the best overall picture of my strengths and weaknesses, I try to be systematic in my assessments, and have people provide feedback who are at different levels of influence in my life – peers, direct reports and supervisors, to name a few. My family also provides insights that when combined with my colleagues' responses, provide a greater overall picture of my strengths and weaknesses.

In order for us to be willing to seek and respond to the feedback from those around us we need three things.

1. We must *appreciate* and *respect* people if we are going to ask them to provide feedback on our skills, abilities and personal characteristics. If we do not respect the people around us – whether it be across, up or down – then we will not be able to constructively receive their feedback.
2. We must be *secure* in ourselves, while acknowledging room for growth. This is foundational to being able to go to those whom we work with and ask them to honestly share what they see in us and then receive it.
3. We must be *intentional* in asking for individuals to participate in the assessment. We must also be intentional about giving them permission to share freely. Understandably, most people are a bit reluctant to share anything that could be perceived as negative about a person who is in positional authority over them and will need clear permission to provide honest feedback. Your friends and family may also struggle with openly sharing what they perceive as your weaknesses. Participants must be given the freedom to share openly for you to receive the most realistic picture of your current leadership and relational skills.

More importantly than getting feedback from people is *applying* that feedback in a way that makes us better leaders and people. If we have made an intentional effort to gain the perspectives of those around, under and above us, then we also want to be intentional in applying what we have learned in a 360 degree manner. Improvement in our leadership skills may take different forms



What do you think of me?

when applied to different groups. We need to take the time to think through this. What will improving my listening skills (or any particular weakness) look like when interacting with those who are under my

authority? What does it look like to those whom work alongside of me? How will I apply what I learned in my interactions with those whom I report to? The changes we make as a result of what we learn through

assessments should make us better employees, co-workers and leaders.

Used with permission from The John Maxwell Company, www.johnmaxwell.com.

Sail or power boats?

One of the joys of college life at Vose Seminary is our Community Wednesdays, where we all give attention to the foundation stones of our spiritual journeys.

It struck me again this week, as I taught a leadership workshop based around the lives of the leaders in the Old Testament, just how many of them struggled with doubt or depression and longed for God to use someone else in lieu of them ... 'Here I am Lord, send him or her ...'

The Bible is full of characters who misunderstood what God was doing, felt alone at times and who made dubious decisions under pressure. But nonetheless, God was able to weave the threads of life together into amazing stories that impacted many beyond their immediate lives, families and communities. Many of the ministries we see in the pages of Scripture were 'by assignment' not 'by choice'. As I look at my own 20 years in Christian ministry, it appears that all the good and fruitful things came by assignment and not by choice.

During a major mission conference in Cape Town (Lausanne 2010), one of the

keynote speakers challenged the 5,000 delegates to examine their inner dreams, aspirations and goals. The speaker asked each leader to seriously consider whether or not they were sailboats under the direction of the Holy Spirit, or powerboats fuelled by their own efforts and ambitions – who was setting the direction? The speaker's main point was that he saw too many human-inspired visions and not enough mission work under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

We have so many resources available to us today, and I wonder how many of our mission plans and dreams are really being blown along by the Spirit? We have become very good at creating our own

strategic plans and independent power sources to get God's work done.

Michael Quicke's address at Vose's 50th year celebrations resonates with this message of sail and power boats. Michael reminded us that we can make plans, but we must leave the results up to God. We cannot manage and dictate to the Holy Spirit our desired outcomes. All we do must be under the direction and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the general chaos of life and ministry, this may result in each one of us being called and assigned tasks without our consent and not by choice. And like the Old Testament characters, we will

want to run and assign these responsibilities to others. What the Bible teaches us is that, unlike much secular leadership today, success isn't just around the corner. But our obedience, coupled with feelings of despair and frustration, can lead to the extension of the Kingdom.

Maybe the study of mission should be called 'messy-ology' and not missiology?

**Lloyd Porter
Director, Vose Mission;
Evangelism and Mission at
Vose Seminary.**

events calendar

November

- 8 to 11 November Just Prayer, Global Interaction, www.globalinteraction.org.au/just-prayer.aspx
- 9 November Just Prayer – Unearthed, 7pm Lakeside Recreation Centre, 6313 6300
- 10 November Baptist Historical Society AGM 'Women in Pastoral Ministry in WA', 2.30pm, Como Baptist Church, 9384 5460
- 16 November Diversity and Unity workshop with Luke14: Disability inclusive Christian communities, Lesmurdie Baptist Church, 9291 9866
- 17 November Making Disciples of All: Faith Connections for Adults with Intellectual Disability, Luke14: Disability inclusive Christian communities, 9387 1304
- 23 November High Tea in the Garden, Lesmurdie Baptist Church, 9291 9866
- 23 November Fundraising for Syrian refugees, Scarborough Baptist Church, 0403 839 558
- 25 to 28 November Leavers 2013, Dunsborough, www.greenteamwa.org.au

December

- 1 December Disability Service for International Day of People with Disability, Yangebup Baptist Church, 0423 918 009
- 3 December International Day of People with a Disability
- 5 December International Volunteer Day
- 12 and 13 December *Rumpelstiltskin*, 12 noon and 7pm, Austin Cove Baptist College, 9537 7177
- 15 December Carols, 5pm to 7.30pm, Scarborough Baptist Church, 9245 1491
- 22 December IGA Carols by Candlelight, Supreme Court Gardens

January

- 27 to 31 January AMUC 2014 (Among the Urban Community), 0416 118 185
- 2 to 6 January Inters Summer Camp 2014, Serpentine Camping Centre
- 7 to 11 January Juniors Summer Camp 2014, Serpentine Camping Centre

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Editorial deadline: 5th of each month

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The Advocate is published on behalf of Baptist Churches Western Australia by imageseven.

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app review



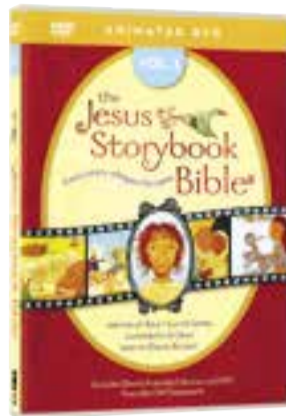
iSingWorship

iSingWorship is an iPhone and iPad app which is ideal for small churches, small groups and children's churches where musical resources are limited.

After downloading the free app, songs are available for in-app purchase at \$2.99 each. The app allows the user to remove the vocals, repeat a chorus, end by going back to verse 1, break down into a quiet instrumental section to talk or pray over, or sing a chorus with just the drums playing. The app is compatible with Apple AirPlay so that lyrics can be easily displayed on a TV or projector.

All songs in the library have been recorded in the most congregation friendly keys possible. Songs can also be played back in several alternative keys making the app useful for a wide variety of different situations.

watch & listen



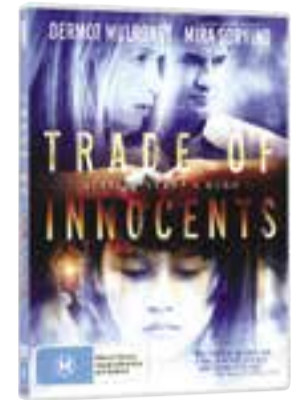
The Jesus Storybook Bible

The multiple award-winning *The Jesus Storybook Bible*; written by Sally Lloyd-Jones and illustrated by Jago, comes to life as short animated stories. Narrated by British actor David Suchet, this volume one DVD contains the first 11 stories from the Old Testament. With four volumes in the series, this animated expression of the Bible tells the age old stories in a modern, contemporary way.



Home Run

Baseball all-star Cory Brand knows what it takes to win in the big leagues. But off the field, with his past memories still haunting him, his life spirals out of control. With an unexpected second chance, Cory finds himself on a powerful journey of change and redemption. Based on true stories, *Home Run* is a reminder that with God, it is never too late.



Trade of Innocents

This harrowing yet hopeful film highlights the sufferings of young girls from Southeast Asia caught up in the sordid and dangerous world of human trafficking. Dermot Mulroney (*My Best Friend's Wedding*) and Mira Sorvino play a married couple working to end this trade in human misery.

win

Pocket Inspirations: Faith

A lovely hard cover gift edition book which will encourage your heart and increase your faith, no matter the season you find yourself in. 'Faith allows you to delight in life since you have placed your needs in God's hands.' 'The Lord's loving kindness indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.' [Lamentations 3:22-23 NASB]



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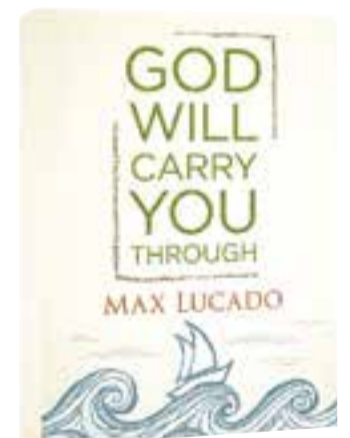
Open

Craig Gross
Despite high-minded ideals, temptation always seems to loom around the corner, threatening to derail us into a desperate world of covered-up indiscretions. From families to marriages to businesses, on a scale as global as the credit default swap meltdown, we often fall for bad ideas. In every area of our lives it's time to get accountable. It's time to live *Open* ...



Walking with God through Pain and Suffering

Timothy Keller
The problem of pain is a persistent one; and for those who undergo particular sufferings it can often be the largest obstacle for trusting in a good and loving God. In his latest and most passionately argued book since 2008's bestseller *The Reason for God*, New York Pastor and Church planter Tim Keller brings encouragement and inspiration to contemporary culture's pressing questions.



God Will Carry You Through

Max Lucado
Through decades of betrayal, abandonment and false accusations, Joseph never gave up on God or His purpose. Joseph continually trusted the sovereignty of God as Master-weaver of his life. In *God Will Carry You Through*, Max invites readers to do the same – to let God's message through Joseph guide His children through tough times today.

Reviews and competition kindly supplied by Word Bookstore.

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Carey launches Right Track

Jet-lagged after his long journey from Texas, Kyle White arrived in Perth for the launch of the Right Track Foundation at Carey Baptist College in late September.

Kyle spoke about his 16 years as a Stanford University track coach in San Francisco, California, where he trained Olympians Tyson Gay and Veronica Campbell-Brown.

"When you're working with athletes of their calibre, you don't coach, you guide," Kyle said.

As well as attending the Right Track Foundation launch, Kyle travelled North with Right Track Foundation chairman Graeme Watson and several Carey Baptist College students to participate in the Geraldton Athletics Clinics held for aspiring student athletes in the Mid West and Pilbara regions.

Graeme, also teacher at Carey Baptist College and a coach at the Cannington Central Athletics Track Club, said the Geraldton Clinics were one of the Foundation's inaugural projects aimed at linking rural and remote to city, Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal youth, and to develop strength, conditioning and track and field skills.

"We want to empower and provide opportunities for youth to serve," Graeme said.

"And we're working at developing relationships with remote communities such as Newman."

Working with legendary local coach Jacko Whitby, the clinics ran from Friday to Monday during the middle week of the spring school holidays.

"Working with Graeme is great," Jacko said.



Geraldton coach Jacko Whitby, Right Track Foundation board member Matt Izett and USA coach Kyle White met for the first time at the launch of the Right Track Foundation at Carey Baptist College.

"He's such a genuine guy – what you see is what you get. He doesn't have any hidden agendas."

The Foundation is currently working on four other projects.

Every second year during the July school holidays, the Foundation plans to send students to the Stanford Track and Field Camp in California as an inspirational and educational opportunity for teens. It allows them to participate in the best student athlete program in the

world and prepares them to serve in their communities.

A third project sponsors corporate scholarships to Carey Baptist College for Aboriginal student athletes heading towards university pathways, providing them with opportunities to reach their academic potential.

Another project supports Aboriginal students in a family environment with two other peers, a mentor and house parents while they are studying at Carey.

This is intended to help them fully immerse themselves in College educational, social and co-curricular activities.

The final project is an eight-week athletics program held each year in late spring at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, aimed at promoting healthy lifestyle choices, building relationships and providing positive role models, and cultivating a sense of worth and hope with the youth at Banksia Hill.

About 40 people attended the Foundation's September launch, including Carey Baptist College Directors Matt and Julie Izett, and board members Dr Carolyn Montgomery, Nickeisha Hodder and Alanna Doig.

Other guests included College Principal Rowan Clark, Carey Baptist Community Church Senior Pastor David Kilpatrick, and Banksia Hill Detention Centre Chaplain Gavin Douglas.



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