

the advocate



Census data shows there is a deeper spiritual search taking place. [PAGE 4>>](#)

In conversation

Wes Jay talks to Roma Waterman about her new album *Release The Sound*. [PAGE 12>>](#)



Photo: NASA

NASA Expedition 16/17 Flight Engineer Garrett Reisman on an amateur radio as part of ARISS program aboard the International Space Station.

From WA to Space

Martin Diggins, a Ham Radio Operator (or Amateur Radio Operator) from Waratah Christian Community Church in Wannanup, is connecting kids from all over the world with astronauts on the International Space Station.

From his amateur radio telebridge station in Mandurah, Martin is one of nine operators worldwide who is part of a program called Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) which facilitates the communication between students and astronauts.

"Each contact is approximately ten minutes as this is the time it takes the International Space Station to travel from one horizon to the other at 28,163 kilometres per hour," Martin explains.

Sponsored by National Aeronautics and Space

Administration (NASA), the American Radio Relay League, and the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, ARISS affords students the opportunity to develop their interests in technology, science and the space program.

“... speaking to an astronaut can be very emotional.”

Schools use the opportunity to talk directly to an orbiting astronaut as part of the science syllabus.

"A space contact is usually a once in a lifetime opportunity which does not happen for very many people around the world," Martin said. "Usually an entire school is present for the contact in a school hall, with 10 to 15 students selected to ask questions of the astronaut."

"For the students the experience of speaking to an astronaut can be very emotional."

"The astronauts really enjoy a ten minute break to talk to the kids as the excitement they generate on the ground is rather infectious and they really like to be involved in the education process."

Martin explains the scheduling of a telebridge connection is very complicated.

"The ARISS coordinators determine the best times for a

school and then check with the telebridge operators to see which of them can be available."

"The times are relayed to NASA to see which are the best for the crew on the International Space Station and NASA makes the final decision as to which telebridge station will facilitate the connection," he said.

Amateur radio telebridge stations also form a contingency communication network as a final emergency communication system between Houston and the International Space Station.

Martin holds the highest level of amateur radio certification and has a morse code speed of 12 words per minute.

Martin studied for two years at TAFE to develop the skills and pass the necessary exams.



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“ **Baptist Churches Western Australia** Better together ”





Graham Mabury

Graham Mabury is a broadcaster and Pastor at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. You can hear Graham on Radio 6PR (882AM) every weeknight from 8pm to midnight.

Love powers the church

If callers to Nightline are any guide, Aussies are still wary of organised religion. The living, loving family of God that I enjoy, they see as unwelcoming, incomprehensible and often really boring. They don't associate "church" with good news of healing and wholeness, forgiveness and freedom, resurrection and hope. They are, nevertheless, very spiritually aware, exploring everything from clairvoyance to feng shui in their search for meaning.

All too often the estrangement begins within church walls. The father of a workmate of mine used to sing in the parish choir. Since he was just six and his mother was at work, he would sit with his Dad. One Sunday, an 'eminent' cleric visiting the congregation saw him. He stopped the service. In front of everyone he growled, "you're not in the choir, come out of there at

once". The small boy did 'come out' and has never been back.

Mind you, the church is not organised religion. It's not religion at all — it's relationship. I love Adrian Plass's story of visiting a favourite restaurant, with his wife and new baby daughter who was prone to projectile vomiting. "It's so Christian," Adrian said, "you share it with everyone". Celebrating

an incident free meal with a spontaneous jig while carrying his daughter to the car, he lost his balance. About to land on the bitumen and on her, he somehow turned his non-athletic frame in mid-air like an Olympic gymnast, landing on his back, daughter safe on his chest. What enabled him to do this? It was purely and simply a father's love.

Love powers the church. Our God, the Father from whom all fatherhood derives its name, is love. His love 'constrained' the apostle Paul to 'try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything ... to spread the good news' [1 Corinthians 9: 22 New Living Translation]. Many, like that embarrassed, hurt and frightened little boy may not return to a building or its programs. But as we, constrained by God's love 'find common ground with everyone', His love [and the church] can go to them.



Dr Brian Harris

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

So what would Jesus do?

You've probably seen them. Little bracelets with the letters WWJD engraved like a code supporting some exotic cause. For the uninitiated, the letters ask 'What would Jesus do?' Given that the real Jesus usually surprised his audience, we shouldn't assume the accuracy of our answer, but it is a worthy question.

You can also get a WDJJ bracelet. Decoded it asks 'What did Jesus do?' Now we can't answer everything with certainty. What did Jesus do on His 21st birthday? ... Pass. Not that we should sweat over the unanswerable. What we know is enough to reshape our agenda.

What did Jesus do? Try these snapshots.

Aged 12, Jesus visits the temple in Jerusalem. He is so

caught up by the Q&A He misses His journey home. Apparently He spent three days jabbering with the teachers of the time. Like your average adolescent He was not entirely gracious when His mother reprimanded Him and asked Him to justify His delay. Interesting dynamics in that household. It took His parents a fair while before they spotted He wasn't with them. Clearly He wasn't a stay-at-home kid.

Or take the Jesus who invites himself to lunch at Zacchaeus' home. Three facts about Zacchaeus? He was short, a tax collector and unpopular. And a fourth ... he was curious and climbed a sycamore tree for a glimpse of Jesus. Why did Jesus grace that unjust man's home? It was an unpopular decision with the crowd who made their displeasure clear. But when did Jesus let group pressure shape

His decisions? The very people who complained loudest soon received a hefty tax return from a transformed Zacchaeus. I wonder if they had the humility to say 'thanks for not listening to us Jesus'.

Ah ... the real Jesus. Wine maker (water his special ingredient), whip carrier in the temple, comfortable in conversations with prostitutes, champion of children. His life was so different to mine ... whatever the answer to the what would Jesus do query, I've a sneaking suspicion it's not what I am doing ...



Hon. Nick Goiran MLC

Member for the South Metropolitan Region in the Parliament of Western Australia.

On the best interest of children

Driving my daughters to school is something I really enjoy. On one particular day last year, as we were driving to school, we were 'stuck' behind a bus. After waiting a few minutes, I noticed the advertisement on the back of the bus was a young woman wearing a pair of what I can only assume from the advertisement were called 'jeggings'.

The only reason I can confidently make this deduction is because the woman in question was not wearing anything else in full view of my two girls. I was caught in quite a dilemma — do I draw my daughters' attention to this rather unsavoury sight and attempt to tell them that women are worth more? Or do I drive on and avoid that somewhat embarrassing conversation and

just hope these images they are being bombarded with daily will somehow not sear into their developing brains as being 'normal'?

It is becoming increasingly obvious from the voices of health professionals, legislators and concerned parents that the wider community is fed up with the continuous sexualisation and commercialisation of children. The current system

of self-regulation is clearly not working and it is high time our political leaders stepped forward and addressed this issue. In March this year, I introduced a motion calling for a WA based inquiry into the sexualisation of children. This motion received strong support, not only from my Liberal colleagues but also from opposition parties.

Following this, the Australian Medical Association

(AMA) also called for an inquiry into the premature sexualisation of children in marketing and advertising. AMA President, Dr Steve Hambleton, said 'there is strong evidence that premature sexualisation is likely to be detrimental to child health and development'. How can we, as a community, expect parents to raise their children into healthy and mentally stable adults when we have failed to provide them with an authentically safe environment to grow up in?

I implore you to engage in this extraordinary issue and articulate your view to your local member of parliament that this issue needs to be addressed.

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.

Celebrating 40 years of care

Baptistcare hosted several 1970s themed afternoon teas at their offices around Western Australia during June and July to mark the commencement of their 40th anniversary celebrations. The theme of the events reflected the era in which Baptistcare commenced operations in 1972.

Baptistcare Chief Executive Officer, Dr Lucy Morris said Baptistcare is proud to have reached its 40th birthday and is looking forward to celebrating with all its staff, volunteers and families who use the services during 2012.

"We are particularly pleased to be able to honour the people who make Baptistcare special, the staff who make such a difference in people's lives," said Lucy.

"It is an honour and a privilege to work with them, and I thank them for their untiring, and very special contribution."

Other events marking the milestone include the inaugural

Recognition Awards to be celebrated at Baptistcare's 40th Anniversary Gala Dinner in September this year. The Awards will recognise staff who display Baptistcare's values of dignity and compassion, integrity and respect, courage and justice, stewardship and accountability as they carry out their roles in our communities.

The Awards will be held annually, serving as a yearly reminder to every member of the Baptistcare team that practising our values in our daily work provides the opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of others.

For more information visit www.baptistcare.com.au.



David Buttfeld Community Aged Care resident, Madge Usher cuts Baptistcare's 40th anniversary birthday cake with Suzy Tillotson, Manager Residential Care.

Photo: Laura McRae

Youth Consultant

Pastor Craig Palmer, from Riverton Baptist Church, is the new Youth and Young Adult Consultant working one day a week with Baptist Churches Western Australia.

"I see my role as empowering youth and young adult workers in their ministries," Craig said. "I'll be building bridges between our youth workers, encouraging them to make the most of training opportunities and, hopefully, encourage them in their work."

Craig expects he'll be in contact with church workers through phone conversations, emails and Facebook, with occasional visits to meet them in person.

"I've got a deep passion for rural ministry, so I'm really looking forward to working with country youth workers."



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For further information about this great opportunity, please contact Lidia Dawkins **0409 086 156** or email lidia.dawkins@baptistcare.com.au

www.baptistcare.com.au



Census: Baptists grow in WA

The latest Australian census data shows there is a deeper spiritual search taking place.

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of people who indicated they have 'no religion' decreased from 29 percent to 22 percent, while the fastest growing religion in Australia was Hinduism.

Self declared Christians remained in the majority at 61 percent. A hundred years ago 96 percent of Australians identified themselves as Christians.

Catholics are still the largest Christian denomination, the number of Anglicans dropped by a little over one percent from 2006 to 2011 and Presbyterian, Reformed and Uniting Church numbers fell by four percent.

Monash University Sociology Professor Dr Gary Bouma broke down the figures even further to reveal some interesting movements over the last census period.

"A lot of those who identify as Christian in Australia are nominal, cultural Christians who are now elderly and dying out," Dr Bouma explains.

"Anglicans, Presbyterians and Uniting have a vast amount of non-attending people who identify culturally with these denominations but do not attend."

Dr Bouma believes the trend indicates the number of people identifying with Christianity is likely to drop below 50 percent in the next decade.

At a state level, the Western Australian census figures reveal an increase in people identifying with a religion or Christian denomination, with the largest growth occurring in the Catholic church. There was significant growth in the Baptist church, which jumped by 27.3 percent over the five year census period.

“

A lot of those who identify as Christian in Australia are nominal, cultural Christians who are now elderly and dying out.

”

Vose Seminary Principal Brian Harris believes the Baptists growth is better than some of the other denominations because Baptist church structure is non-hierarchical. "The Baptist churches tend to reflect grass roots feeling and sentiment, and able to adapt to changing circumstances," Brian said.

"I think Baptists in Western Australia have done that especially well, and this is demonstrated in their growth being well ahead of the population growth."

Interestingly, the state's population growth over the five year was 14.3 percent. "I think Baptist Christians in WA have become more outwardly focused and are benefitting from the public awareness created by the presence of an increasing number of Baptist schools and services provided to the community," Brian explained.

He believes Baptists have earned the right to speak into the lives of people in the community, leading to growth within the church.



Karen Church turns 15

Perth Karen Baptist Church celebrated their 15th anniversary with a dinner at Bentley Baptist Church in June. Along with members of the Church, in attendance were 10 of the 11 founders; one member has passed away since the Church's commencement.

The Perth Karen Baptist Church commenced in 1997 with a small group of Karen elders and leaders. Many of them migrated to Western Australia from Burma; some fled refugee camps along the Burma and Thailand borders.

After needing a place of worship, the group decided to start a Karen Baptist church since most of them are Baptist Christians.

"With much prayer and

praise in seeking God's guidance, not only looking for a place of worship but someone to Pastor the Karen church, we were led to approach the Pastor and leaders of Bentley Baptist Church," Lily Pinto, one of the founders of Perth Karen Baptist Church, said.

"We thank the Lord for answering our prayers and providing us a place of worship at Bentley Baptist Church and also Pastor Win Shwe," said Lily.

Current Pastor Eh Htee Kaw was inducted by Marc Chan, Consultant, Cross Cultural and

Indigenous Ministries for Baptist Churches Western Australia on 16 October 2011.

"When I first met Pastor Eh Htee Kaw, I strongly felt he had the potential to be a Pastor. I encouraged and approached him many times regarding this. Pastor Eh Htee Kaw is such a humble and gracious man, he kept saying I'm not good enough or worthy enough to be a Pastor. Of course the Lord has other ideas and had the last word," said Marc.

digital church

19/07/2012

Tim Stevenswww.leadingsmart.com

Nearly every church in America that has a building puts a sign on the property telling the world the name of the church. Nothing wrong with that. We've also done that for many years. But in our recent revisioning project, we intentionally decided to activate the campus. That is, rather than have a church campus that is primarily focused on weekend services for the congregation – we decided to turn the purpose of the property toward reaching the community.

19/07/2012

Steven Furtickwww.stevenfurtick.com

We are typically our own biggest critics. We tell ourselves that we don't read the Bible enough. We don't pray enough. We screw up too much and too often. These are the lies that Satan whispers in our ear. As Christians, the enemy may not be able to have our souls, but he wants more than anything to convince us that we're unworthy, our impact is limited, and that we can't make a difference for the Kingdom.

briefs

Invest in the future

Over \$185,000 has been donated or pledged by Baptist churches and individual members to Vose Seminary's 'Invest in the Future' Capital Campaign since commencing in April. The amount required for Stage 1 of the new build is \$2.5 million. The Campaign will allow Vose Seminary to build the first of a number of stages in the development of a Christian university at the Bentley site. This will include the building of four additional lecture halls, staff offices, toilets, kitchen, reception, student common rooms and storage areas as well as specially designed outdoor spaces to

enhance community life. It will also include upgrading some of their current buildings. The development will allow Vose Seminary to accept approximately 300 extra students and to host events for 200 to 250 delegates. Donna Foote, Capital Campaign Coordinator at Vose Seminary, says those who donate will be an intrinsic part of Vose Seminary's exciting evolution of offering both theological and non-theological higher education, informed by a Christian worldview and the Vose ethos. "We'd like to thank all the churches and individuals who have generously contributed to the Campaign so far and

encourage those who haven't yet been able to give to consider supporting this exciting project," Donna said.

Pledges can be made over two years and all donations are tax deductible.

For information visit www.vose.wa.edu.au.

Storms damage churches

More than a dozen churches and Baptist colleges in Western Australia suffered damage during the severe storms that ripped through the state on 10 June.

From Busselton Camping Centre in the south through to North Beach Baptist Church in Perth's northern suburbs, strong winds uprooted trees, destroyed fences and shredded shade sails and signage.

Disruption to ministries and classes followed the storm.

"The time needed to collect quotes and liaise with neighbours is something our ministries don't need," Terry Hicks, Business Manager of Baptist Churches Western Australia said. "Many of our churches have volunteers in the role of property management and it's something that they could do without."

Power failure at Serpentine Camping Centre caused a 24 hour deferment of one camp while Winthrop Baptist College's canteen lost thousands of dollars worth of frozen food when the school was left without power for several days.

"A month after the storm we were still receiving claims from churches," Jill Birt, Insurance Officer with Baptist Churches Western Australia said. "We're currently handling about \$80,000 worth of claims just from that storm."

"Our property insurer has categorised this as a major storm, so we'll be sending all the claims to them."

South Coast Baptist College (formerly Maranatha Christian Community School) in Waikiki lost much of their perimeter fence on three sides of the property. Negotiating with the owners of several adjoining properties made their insurance claims more complex.

Mandurah Baptist College suffered some roof damage and needed repairs to one solar panel. Strong winds demolished a brick



Bek D'Sylva (left) and Priscilla Penn from Baptist Churches Western Australia inspect some of the damage to the fences at the Baptist Ministry Centre in Rivervale following the destructive storms on 10 June.

Photo: Jill Birt

wall that protected the College's rubbish bins.

1Church's congregation at Mandurah Baptist Church lost the shade sail over their children's play area.

Coolbellup Charismatic Baptist Church lost 30 metres of fence while North Beach Baptist Church and Morley Baptist Church also lost fences. Fences at a property owned by Inglewood Community Church were damaged and the Baptist Ministry Centre in Rivervale lost several sections of metal fencing. A small section of fence at Emmanuel Christian Community School was broken.

East Fremantle Baptist Church had signage damaged at the front of their property.

"There's not a lot you can do to protect fences when a storm is coming," Jill said. "Assessing the risks of your property is a proactive action. Taking down shade sails when a big storm is coming could save churches and schools making a claim."

Kym Bennetts, the National Insurance Manager of the Australian Baptist Insurance Scheme, plans to be in Western Australia during August to visit churches and schools to outline the benefits of the scheme.

Perth Pastor moves to UK

Pastor Wayne Field is moving to the United Kingdom with his family to take up the position of International Training Coordinator with Operation Mobilisation (OM).

Wayne will make the shift into the non-salaried position at OM's training department in Carlisle, UK after being a Pastor in West Australian Baptist churches for 18 years.

"The ministry I'm passionate about is developing people in order to bring about positive, God honouring change in them, the church, and the community they live in," Wayne said.

The role involves researching and developing a suite of training materials,



Operation Mobilisation's newly appointed International Training Coordinator, Pastor Wayne Field with wife Jodie and daughters Sarah, Caitlyn and Jessica.

Photo: Gary and Rhonda Lindberg

managing an online learning environment, providing support for OM's Area Training Facilitators in various global regions and occasionally travelling to the field to provide face to face training.

"A couple of years ago I became aware of the urgent need to equip strong, spiritually

mature Christian leaders in the majority world and I sensed a conviction that the Lord had a work for me to do in that arena."

Wayne concluded his ministry at Australind Baptist Church in January and plans to be in the UK by January 2013.

Perth prays together as part of Prayer for the City

Every Tuesday since 19 June people have gathered at various locations in Perth's CBD to pray together as part of Prayer for the City.

Prayer for the City found its humble beginnings in a grass roots manner throughout the

Perth CBD and inner city.

"Most of the prayer cells, of which there are twenty, grew from people sensing that God was calling them to come

together to pray for the welfare of the city," Prayer for the City consultant, Dr John Yates, explained.

"Jeremiah 29:7 reads 'But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.'"

"The prayer cells meet at places such as Woodside, BHP, Chevron, Rio Tinto and other locations, interceding for their companies to become ethical in their decision making and places of wholesome relationships, as well as asking the Lord for opportunities to share Christ in person."

The largest of the meetings, Perth Prayer, meets in Wesley Church midday each Wednesday for an hour.

"After a few songs the centrepiece is a testimony, usually drawn from a local person, about the working of Christ in their life, followed by a time of prayer for the needs of the city."

WA nurse awarded OAM

West Australian nurse, Ann Mitchell, from Parkerville Baptist Church has been awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for her years of work in developing countries.

Ann has spent many years volunteering in developing countries and is honoured by the recognition she has received, but says the work she does is always a group effort.

"One person can achieve some things but a team of people can achieve so much more and really make a difference," Ann said.

Current Director of Nursing at the Vinmec International Hospital in Hanoi, Vietnam – a new 500 bed tertiary hospital which opened in January this year – Ann's role is to monitor and assist the hospital reach international standards of nursing care.

"We need to reduce the gap in knowledge between the medical and nursing teams through continuing nursing education programs," Ann said.

"Ultimately, I will manage myself out of a job so that the Vietnamese Nursing Administration team can capably

manage their own hospital."

Ann says professional nurses follow a life time learning program, a concept that is new to Vietnam where nursing has not been established as long as in western countries. Therefore, the work she and her colleagues do is important.

"Occasionally, people from home [Australia] turn up at the hospital. One Aussie was a passenger in the side car of his motorbike which a friend was driving. They collided head on with a mini bus and he ended up with a cut face and a leg broken in a number of places. We were able to reassure him about his treatment and the healing process."

"The job isn't always easy and I'm grateful for the support from home. My local church at Parkerville has been extremely supportive of me wherever I have been placed."

Ann will receive her award at a ceremony in September.



Director of Nursing Ann Mitchell (second from left) was recently awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia. She is pictured here with volunteers from Perth and medical staff at the Vinmec International Hospital in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Photo: Le Thi Hien Thu

Celebrating NAIDOC

Yangebup Baptist Church and Belmont-based Mount Zion Aussie Indigenous Church (MOZAIC) once again marked this year's NAIDOC Week with a unique joint worship service and time of fellowship. The two Baptist churches started meeting together to celebrate their faith in God a few years ago.

Yangebup Baptist Church Pastor Craig Siggins says the joint celebration, held on the last day of NAIDOC week, was the third time the congregations had met.

"NAIDOC celebrates our Australian indigenous culture and achievements, and also remembers hardships and challenges faced," Craig said.

"Our two churches took this as an opportunity to celebrate being 'one in Christ', whether indigenous or non-indigenous."

Craig led this year's combined service which featured a number of items from Mount Zion Aussie Indigenous Church.

"Stephanie Truscott performed a wonderful rendition of 'Amazing Grace', and Fred and Millie Penny sang a wonderful duet of 'I'm so glad that Jesus lifted me'."

"Pastor Keith Truscott preached from Mark 11: 15-19 and Isaiah 56: 1-8, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations', and indeed our rather multicultural service had people from many nations, a foretaste of heaven," Craig said.

Craig and Keith have been working together for more than 15 years.

"We've shared Easter meetings around the Newman area over many years, some Martu people from the Western Australia's desert region are a regular part of the MOZAIC congregation and we're proud to say some of them have been baptised in the Swan River," Keith said.

The group ended their celebration together by forming a circle around the auditorium and singing 'We are one big happy family', 'God's family', and some final prayers. This was followed by a shared lunch.

New GIA state director

Global Interaction Australia (GIA) appointed Pastor Colin Meadows from Riverton Baptist Community Church as the new State Director for Western Australia in July.

Colin brings a wealth of experience in cross-cultural ministry.

"My wife and I were in Botswana with Africa Evangelical Fellowship for 17 years doing general church work and helping at a small rural Bible college," Colin said.

"I'm very familiar with Global Interaction's ministries and staff, both in WA and the teams in Africa."

Colin says he's excited about his new role and the work ahead.

"Global Interaction works to empower communities to develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus and what we do here in Australia is to find and equip Christians to go and share Christ among nine least-reached people groups around the world."

Looking back over the last



Colin Meadows is the newly appointed Global Interaction State Representative for Western Australia.

Photo: Jill Birt

year or so, Colin says he can see how God has prepared him for his new post.

"I didn't realise it at the time but God had been preparing me for this new challenge, I feel, when I took a group of young people to Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia earlier this year to visit Global Interaction missionaries there," Colin explained.

Colin believes the work he's

starting with GIA is strategically important.

"We live in a very crucial time, I sense, when God has called us to step out strongly in faith to share Jesus with others, so my challenge is that we all do what we can to see it become a reality, in our local communities and around the world."

National leader visits Perth

Keith Jobberns, the new National Ministries Director for Australian Baptist Ministries visited Perth recently to meet Western Australian ministry teams as part of his plan to learn more of the breadth of ministries Australian Baptists are

involved in.

"Keith brings a huge wealth of experience to his national role," Mark Wilson, Director of Ministries for Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) said. "For several years he was the Director of Global Interaction and before that, the Senior Pastor of Dural Baptist Church in Sydney. This gives him a unique background to support and encourage ministries across the nation."

Philip Bryant, Church Health Consultant with BCWA and WA's representative with Crossover Australia met with Keith explaining how BCWA supports local congregations by facilitating Church Health Surveys, a diagnostic tool to help churches see strengths and areas

for growth in their ministry and how they engage with their local community.

During his visit to Perth, Keith was a guest at the monthly BCWA Council meeting to meet Council members, including Council Chairman, Allan Thomas.

Bob Clark, former Superintendent of the Baptist Union of WA, welcomed Keith at a meeting of retired Baptist Pastors.

At the Baptist Ministry Centre, Keith met with Marc Chan, Consultant for Cross Cultural and Indigenous ministries.

Keith is widely recognised for his experience in understanding the missional challenges that he will likely face.



Photo: Jill Birt

Keith Jobberns, the new National Ministries Director for Australian Baptist Ministries met with Marc Chan, Cross Cultural and Indigenous Ministries Consultant with Baptist Churches Western Australia, during his recent visit to Perth.

Family meals for 50 cents

Children from Sunday Jam at Inglewood Community Church participated in Dorcus House's 50 Cent Challenge recently. The initiative was motivated by the church's theme of the month, missions, where people were asked to look at what they were doing in the areas of missions and helping others both locally and overseas.



Photo: Dorcus House

Karen Catley, Dorcus House Promotion and Fundraising Coordinator, with Inglewood Community Church Children's Pastor Joshua Thomas and children who participated in Dorcus House's 50 Cent Challenge.

Karen Catley, Dorcus House Promotion and Fundraising Coordinator, approached Children's Pastor Joshua Thomas and asked if she could do something with the children in Sunday Jam. She believes it is important to education children in the areas of missions, giving and helping others.

"The 50 Cent Challenge is basically this: 50 cents equals 25 rupees which buys one kilogram of rice which will feed one family one meal," Karen said. "We find this concept quite easy for children to understand and get hold of. It is exciting to watch the children's faces when they realise

they can do something that will impact another child overseas."

For one month the children were put to the challenge.

"We encouraged them to not just ask mum or dad for 50 cents but to earn the money or take it from their pocket money."

At the end of the month the children brought all their money jars back to church along with their stories of how they raised and earned the money.

"Some kids said they cleaned the microwave or helped grandma around the house. On the last Sunday, I brought Dorcus House's Money Spinner into church, so the kids could put all their money in it."

Collectively the children

raised \$285 which provided 570 meals for families in Kolkata, India.

"The 50 Cent Challenge is open to all and shows people that you don't need a lot of money in order to make a difference to people overseas," said Karen.

"It was great to see all the kids pitch in for a good cause," Joshua said. "Lots of positive stories from parents seeing their kids care about others so far away, but who are still children loved by God."

Dorcus House is a volunteer-based Christian charity working with widows and their children living in poverty and slum areas of India.

For more information visit www.dorcushouse.org.au.

BCWA voice in Chile

Several thousand Baptists from across Chile welcomed approximately 300 Baptist World Alliance (BWA) leaders and delegates at the BWA Annual Gathering in Santiago at the beginning of July. Mark Wilson, Director of Ministries for Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) attended the Gathering.

"I am on the Commission for Ministry and we heard from the Chilean Baptist denominational leader and Principal of the Baptist Theological Seminary," Mark said. "Our Commission is working on a survey for churches to complete all over the world in regards to their relationship with seminaries."

"The highlight of the gathering was the opening. On the first night, the National Baptist Convention of Chile had a combined gathering which included traditional dance, brass big band, a national opera singer and combined international worship. It was a wonderful celebration."

During the Gathering, BWA signed two major contracts in preparation for the 21st Baptist World Congress in South Africa in 2015. The Congress Committee received reports that contracts have been signed with the International Convention Centre in Durban and a destination manager.

The destination manager will help to coordinate housing for the thousands of Baptists that are expected to attend and will cover all liabilities related to housing, except for persons who choose home stays with fellow Baptists.

BWA President John Upton highlighted the importance of the Baptist World Congress in the life of Baptists around the world.

"If you want to create a mess, forget who you are," John told members of the Congress Committee.

"Many Baptists are forgetting who we are. The World Congress enables us to remember who we are and we hear it with this global voice."

A number of other events will be planned around the Baptist World Congress, including pre-Congress events such as the International Women's Conference, and post-Congress activities such as mission trips in South Africa and other African countries.

The case for a Christian university in Perth

By Brian Harris

It is no secret that Perth's newest higher education provider, Vose College, has set itself the daunting goal of forming a Christian university over a 20 year time frame. Given the project has been underway for a year, 19 remain. Some would ask if a Christian university is necessary while others might dismiss it as impossible. So why are we travelling this route?

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While we could argue as to what constitutes the major blocks to people engaging with the Christian faith, my suggestion would be that two significant obstacles are that Christianity is increasingly portrayed as being morally bankrupt and intellectually having little substance. Even someone with very limited knowledge of 2,000 years of church history would realise that while those accusations can be levelled at many specific lapses in the long record of Christian faith, to conclude that this is an even vaguely accurate summary is outrageous – indeed, it doesn't even work as a caricature.

Those who argue that Christianity is intellectually shallow have to contend with the inconvenient truth that Christianity has shaped the intellectual climate of the western world, and that its leading universities (Harvard, Princeton, Cambridge and Oxford to name a few) were birthed by those whose active Christian faith saw them embrace the quest for truth and understanding in the name of Christ. Likewise on the moral front, Christianity has been at the forefront of almost every major social advance, including the abolition of slavery, championing the rights of women and children, and protecting the rights of workers through the modern labour movement.

But all this is history. Should the status of the Christian faith be reduced to that of a formerly important player in a now irrelevant past? As a world come of age dances towards a future which rejects the notion of God and tries to find meaning via a radical embrace of the 'now' (accepting that no other moment is guaranteed) should Christians accept that they no longer have anything to offer? I think not ...

Fifty years ago Christians were well represented when

discussions arose about any issue that impacted the wider society. Now they are rarely invited to the table. Their absence is to everyone's detriment. The loss of a clear Christian presence in the wider community creates a dilemma for how the church can do what Jesus has called it to do, as the Christian faith is marginalised. While Christians are not persecuted in our society, it is usually assumed that all public forums should be secular, and that faith communities ought to be confined to their particular religious 'ghetto'. In attempting to form a Christian university, we envision a thoroughly engaged community of Christian scholars who impact their areas of study and expertise by doing what no one else does – seriously thinking through the implications of the Christian faith in areas as diverse as economics, education, counselling, management, social theory ... the list goes on and on. These insights will then be shared in the marketplace of ideas. We will not be looking for scholars who want to retreat into an isolated Christian enclave, but for those who relish the opportunity to both nurture their students and interact with the wider intellectual community. We believe this will help renew a thoughtful Christian faith.

And let's be clear about this. The Christian story is a narrative worth grappling with, be it from the perspective of one who believes, or one who does not.

Take the opening portrait of the biblical story where we are told that humanity is made in the image of God and then given the task of stewarding or caring for creation in a life serving and affirming manner. The first humans had to name the animals, thereby ensuring that animals have a face, a place and dignity. The ecological implications flow thick and fast.

Those who know the account will remember the affirmation

that both women and men are made in God's image – Imago Dei for those who like a little Latin. Let that seed idea germinate. We are told that the most fundamental truth about humans is that they in some measure reflect the image of the God who made them. And that image clearly has nothing to do with gender, as both men and women reflect this image. In short, the most fundamental truth of our humanity has nothing to do with gender ... how many millennia of patriarchal abuse could have been avoided if this narrative had been championed more vigorously?

Is our creation in the image of God an irrelevant narrative for today? Not if you are unfortunate enough to live in one of the many countries where gender discrimination is rampant. And while it may be controversial to note, it remains true that those abuses are most obvious in lands which have been least impacted by the story of Jesus. Hardly surprising ... without a narrative to challenge the fallen default instinct that 'might is right', lesser narratives quickly dominate with tragic consequences.

Of course this founding story of women and men being made in the image of God has further implications ... every image bearer possess what theologian Helmut Thielicke calls 'an alien dignity'. Because that dignity comes from 'beyond' it is not restricted to humans who meet some imposed standard of acceptability. Again, if this narrative had been championed more vigorously there would have been a world without slavery, a world where everyone matters, a world where the voice of the voiceless is instinctively championed – be it the voice of unborn infants or the elderly in a twilight world of 'forgottiness', or boat people from distant and hostile shores. How can such radical and liberating concepts be absent from the table of ideas?

The opening biblical story goes yet further. As image bearers, humanity is called to steward creation. I know that Christians are sometimes portrayed as ultra conservatives who instinctively say 'no' to everything. But this idea challenges that. Those who steward the creation of the God in whose image they are made are called to a creativity and compassion that reflects the character of their creator. This does not allow a lazy resignation from the quest for a more humane existence. To the contrary, Christians are mandated to work together with God to ensure the flourishing of the human race. Indeed, they cooperate in the Missio Dei – or the mission of God, for those whose Latin is not up to it.

I could go on and on ... and this is gleaned from just the opening biblical story. Imagine if we add to it the narratives of law and grace, cross and atonement, resurrection and hope, church and new community ... and if we take those insights and filter them through the lens of economics, legal studies, sociology, education, psychology, literature ... ah yes, the Christian university. Bring it on ...

Dr Brian Harris is the Principal of Vose Seminary and Vose College, which are working closely together for the formation of a Christian university in Perth.

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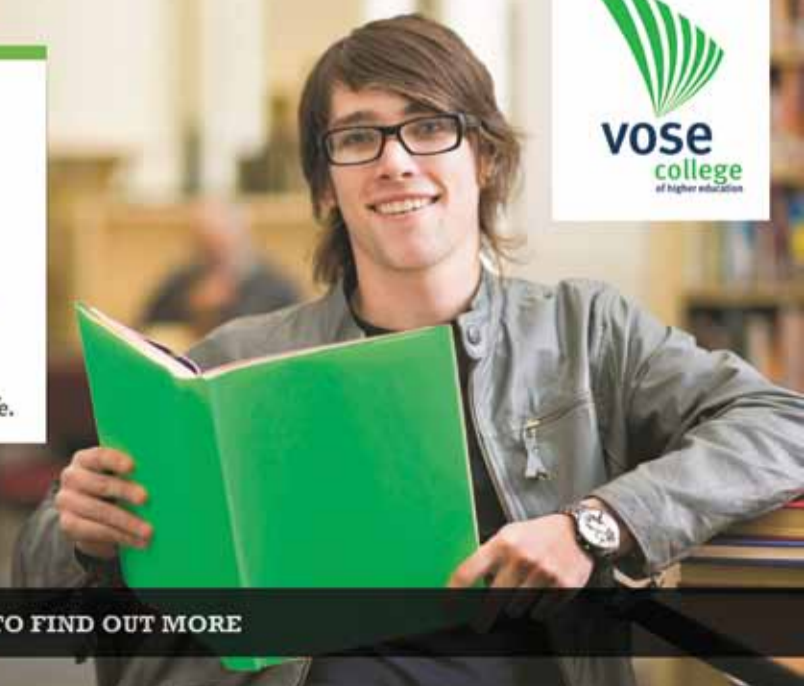
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50 years of broadcasting hope

Since 1964, Kazuo Ozaki has been broadcasting messages of peace, love and hope to the world through his Japanese radio program for World Radio Missionary Fellowship Incorporated (commonly known as HCJB Global).

The world's first missionary broadcast organisation has been touching lives around the globe since its first broadcast on 25 December 1931.

"I did not choose where to be born, where to begin my life, where to work or even die. All happens by God divine appointment," Kazuo explains. "When I was a student at Japan Christian College in Tokyo, I had absolutely no idea what the future had in store for me."

Kazuo joined the staff of the Pacific Broadcasting Association, a Christian recording studio producing gospel programs for local radio stations throughout

“
Everybody is going their own way these days, economically, politically, morally — lost, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Japan. At that time the young broadcaster had never dreamed of going to South America.

"When HCJB began asking who they could get to go to Ecuador from Japan, 'Not me!' was my immediate response," Kazuo admitted.

"I told the Lord that I was not available and even tried to send my best friend instead."

Kazuo ended up in Ecuador, convicted by the words of Psalm 37, 'The steps of a good man are established by the Lord and He delights in His way'.

"I was trying to take the steps of my way to delight myself and I knew I was not right with God," Kazuo said.

Kazuo looks back on his life and recognises that God had been preparing him to become a missionary. He served three years in Japan's Self Defence Force and was assigned as a liaison officer with the Foreign Military Advisory Group based on his English speaking ability.

"After I was saved, God gave me a great opportunity to study and train at Bible college, all the elements of my life were in the hands of the Master-Potter who was able to create the vessel He wanted."

"I finally said to the Lord, 'Here I am, oh Lord, don't send my brother — send me, I am yours.'"

Kazuo says his broadcasts to the world are more important now than ever.

"Everybody is going their own way these days, economically, politically, morally — lost, like sheep without a shepherd."

Kazuo says the recent words of Tokyo Mayor Shintaro Ishihara resonate with him, 'Japan has lost its compass and needs to stop and check in which direction we were going'.

"He's right and with my shortwave radio broadcasts, I want to point the compass back towards God."



Japanese missionary broadcaster, Kazuo Ozaki, has been broadcasting messages of peace, love and hope to the world for almost half a century. He is pictured here in his studio in Arizona, USA.

Photo: Christine Kerns

Christians flee Syria

Thousands of Christians have fled the besieged Syrian city of Qusayr after reportedly receiving an ultimatum to leave by an opposition military chief in Qusayr, a threat echoed by the mosques.

Most of the western city's 10,000 Christian residents have left and some of the mosques in Qusayr are said to have given those who remain a deadline to vacate.

An earlier ultimatum had allegedly been issued by a military chief of the armed opposition, Abdel Salam Harba. Local sources said that Islamic extremists within the opposition consider Christians 'infidels'. They have confiscated their belongings and carried out mass executions.

Opponents of the government have denied ordering Christians out of Qusayr. In a statement said to be from the rebel leadership in the city, issued on 11 June, it stated that they had lived together with our beloved Christian brothers and sisters for decades, working together and living alongside one another.

They added that most of the Christian families, along with Muslim families, had fled Qusayr

around two months ago due to shelling by government militia.

The city is an extremely dangerous place for those who remain. A church minister, Atallah Ibrahim Bitar, was shot dead while reportedly taking food to people forced into hiding by a week-long bombardment.

Qusayr has been the site of intense clashes between President Bashar Hafez al-Assad troops and opposition forces for months. Almost the entire 50,000 to 60,000 Christian population of Homs has fled as a result of heavy fighting in Homs.

Christians from Qusayr have gone to nearby villages or to stay with relatives and friends in the capital, Damascus.

Whether or not they were ordered out, it is clear that they no longer felt safe in their homes and, like their counterparts in Homs, have been forced to flee as a result of the ongoing conflict.

Christians are particularly vulnerable in anti-government strongholds because they are assumed to be supporters of President Assad, having enjoyed considerable freedom under his regime.

“
Almost the entire 50,000 to 60,000 Christian population of Homs has fled as a result of heavy fighting in Homs.”

Pastor of Discipleship and Training (F/T)

A full time position is available for an enthusiastic and experienced person to oversee discipleship, small groups and training within Lakeside Baptist Church.

Situated in the southern suburbs of Perth WA, Lakeside is a unique church serving the community through a Recreation Centre. It is a vibrant church that is passionate about saying "yes" to Jesus.

To fulfil this position, you will require creativity, demonstrated skills in establishing and implementing discipleship pathways, as well as excellent preaching and communication abilities.

For more information or a copy of the selection criteria, contact Robyn Jamieson on (08) 9310 7111. Please send written application addressing the selection criteria to: church@lakeside.asn.au

Applications close Friday 10th August 2012.



Cambodian child slave freed

For four long years, 12 year old Rose was beaten regularly and forced to work long hours after being sold to a rich owner of an abattoir in one of Cambodia's worst slums.

Rose was promised a better life, education and food but was made to work in the abattoir for as long as 15 hours a day, every day.

Anyone attempting to give evidence about what was going on was told they would be slaughtered.

Mount Hawthorn Baptist Church came to know of Rose's plight through its connection with the 36 Fellowship of Hope Churches, education centres, business ventures, slum relocations and other ministries. Rose's family lived in a slum at the back of the abattoir with no running water, no toilet and no electricity.

Missions Coordinator at Mount Hawthorn Baptist Church, Brett Peacock, said Rose's parents sold her for US\$250.

"It all started with a prayer request I received from a group of Cambodian churches in October last year," Brett said. "The family needed money for urgent medical expenses and

they sold their daughter on the understanding she would be looked after by the rich family, and given a future her parents felt they could not provide."

What really happened to Rose came to light after a church was planted in the slum community in 2010. The local pastor found out about her and a prayer request went out to the support network.

"Efforts to free Rose with the help of local police were unsuccessful and the local community was threatened if anyone spoke out against the abattoir owner," Brett explained.

"I actually witnessed this little girl working in the abattoir, wearing what looked like blood soaked pyjamas, dragging bones around the shed, pushing wheel barrows carrying large chunks of meat. It is a moment I will never forget."

The request to pray for Rose was shared through Mount Hawthorn Baptist Church's prayer network.

"We were able to connect the local Cambodian church with

Troy Robert, a Phnom Penh-based missionary who managed to get the anti-human trafficking agency, SISHA [South East Asia Investigations into Social and Humanitarian Activities] to investigate," Brett said.

On SISHA's investigation earlier this year, the threat of legal action against the abattoir owner led to Rose's release.

Rose is now in school for the first time in her life.

"She is now living with a pastor and his family. When I visited in June, it was amazing to see the difference in her face and how happy she is with her new family."



Photo: Brett Peacock

The slum at the back of the abattoir where freed Cambodian child slave Rose used to live with her family.

Sharing the good news



Photo: Operation Mobilisation

Children in Bangladesh reading an Olympics booklet from Operation Mobilisation's sports ministry team.

With all eyes focused on London and the Olympics, Operation Mobilisation's sports ministry team in Bangladesh saw this as an opportunity to share the good news, especially amongst young people.

The team finds it difficult to find creative ways to communicate

God's love to the younger generation in Bangladesh but has found a multi-coloured booklet, translated into Bangla, to be a winner.

The booklet traces the highlights of the Olympics from past games and includes testimonies from world famous athletes who profess faith in Christ.

Over 5,000 copies of this booklet have been distributed in schools, colleges and local bazaars.

Graduates of previous sports-discipleship training programs

have also distributed the booklets in their home areas and are using the Olympics to reach out to young people.

Operation Mobilisation's role is to mobilise people to share the knowledge of Jesus and His love with every generation in every nation.

Operation Mobilisation pioneers and leads initiatives to redeem lives, rebuild communities and restore hope in over 110 countries.

Exposing poor practice

EXPOSED is a new coalition of Christian organisations raising their voices to global churches, businesses and governments to join with wider society in a united response against corruption and poverty.

The EXPOSED campaign is a response from the Christian church, inspired by the Bible, committed to promote practical steps for ethical behaviour.

It aims to position Christians as advocates of justice and transformation in the nations they are called to serve.

"We want to bring together millions of Christians from all denominations to take a stand and unite against corruption, fighting for the poor," Dr Dion Forster, International Coordinator of EXPOSED said. "Corruption is one of the greatest obstacles when dealing with extreme poverty and the campaign aims to mobilise Christians to join with wider society in exposing the practices which oppress the poor."

A new report by campaign group Global Financial Integrity suggests that corruption

and tax evasion cost the developing world as much as \$903 billion in 2009.

"Every year well over one trillion dollars goes missing through mis-management, illicit business practices and poor governance. It doesn't have to be this way. This money doesn't just evaporate – it is actually deducted from the livelihood of some of the poorest people in the world."

EXPOSED aims to rally 100 million Christians to join together for a week of witness, advocacy and action from 14 to 20 October 2013.

For more information visit www.exposed2013.com.

Roma Waterman's songs have received extensive airplay on Christian radio in Australia. Her seventh album, *Release The Sound*, transitions her from a story telling singer/songwriter to a creator of artistic songs of contemporary worship. She recently spoke with broadcaster and Christian music historian Wes Jay.

Releasing the sounds of heaven

How would you describe your music?

I've worked as a Christian singer-songwriter for many years and I've loved that season of my life. But the more that I've developed my relationship with God, the more my heart has been drawn towards more intimate songs — songs that are about His presence and songs about being in His presence. One of the things I've often pondered is what songs are being sung in heaven? What would it be like if I could be in the throne room and hear the songs being sung? And what would it be like to hear that and portray it on earth? So in some ways my new record attempts to reflect that. I'm hoping it's the beginning of a new sound in my life.

A lot of people say they're looking for the new sound. Some even say they've found one. But what do you mean when you say 'new sound'?

A couple of years ago, I got quite frustrated. I was bored with my own sound and I was trying to find this ethereal new sound. I met this amazing guy called Dan McCollam from the USA who's since become a mentor to me. He teaches on worship and he's been instrumental in helping me to release this record. I asked him to explain what this new sound is. He said something really profound. He said everybody thinks the new sound is about music, a musical sound, a musical style. But actually the new sound is more about revelation. It's about writing songs out of a revelation that you've received. I think what we can be in danger of doing is writing songs that we think people want to hear, or writing songs that we think the church would sing, instead of writing out of our own personal encounters with God.

To some extent, there's hints of this throughout all your music.

This isn't the beginning of my journey. *I Was Carried* is a

perfect example of that. I wrote that out of a personal revelation of knowing that I will be carried through difficult times. It's a very simple truth, but I had a personal revelation of that. I think the reason that song worked so well and got so much attention was because of the personal revelation, rather than the artistry of the song. So, a new sound emerges out of a personal revelation. When Dan said that to me, I was so inspired, but I also felt really released because I didn't feel like I had to reinvent a wheel or create something no one had ever heard before. Instead, I started to ask myself, what personal revelations have I had about the Lord that I could portray in music? So instead of going into a studio and structuring a song around a hook, I waited until I got something spontaneous, then I'd sing that in the studio or even in a corporate setting. The song 'Footsteps of My Father' came from that. I got the chorus for the song during a worship time in church. The revelation was that I could see God walking through the doors and the hallways of my heart, looking for the rooms He could enter into.

One of the highlights on your album for me is a song you co-wrote with Dave Fitzgerald from the USA. How do you write songs out of personal revelation when you're co-writing?

It's really interesting to write out of the overflow of your heart when you are doing a co-write. I think it's really important that the person you are writing with has a similar heart to you, and I certainly found that in Dave who wrote the song 'Hallelujah He's Alive' with me. It's an amazing story because we had never met before. We accidentally found each other on Facebook. And it was because he posted a really silly little video of himself using his iPad as a phone. I thought it was really funny and did — as you do — a bit of a Google and found out that he was a worship leader. So I got his album and was blown away

by his worship record *Hope Of Heaven*. We became friends and he ended up in Australia. The first time we met was when we actually wrote that song. We had spent hours working on another song and ten minutes before he was about to leave, he said to me that he had this idea for another song. He said "I'll just show it to you and when we meet again maybe we could have a go at writing it" and in ten minutes, we had 'Hallelujah He's Alive'. It shocked both of us. It's funny because the overflow of your heart is just natural. It's there. There are just a lot of things that get in the way.

Release the Sound Competition

The Advocate, in conjunction with Woodlands Media is giving you an opportunity to win a copy of *Release the Sound*.

To be in the draw, simply answer the following question:

Question:

What is the name of the song on *Release the Sound* that Roma Waterman co-wrote with Dave Fitzgerald?

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Please complete this form with your details and post it to:

Release the Sound Competition
11 East Parade East Perth WA 6004

Entries close 17 August and all winners will be announced in the September edition of *The Advocate*.



Photo: Woodlands Media

Judging how to spend time as a leader

By John Maxwell

At the 2008 Beijing Olympics, swimmer Michael Phelps broke the world record for the most gold medals won by an individual during a single Olympiad. In the 100 metre butterfly, the race in which he tied the world record by collecting his seventh gold, Phelps won in a photo finish. In fact, to the naked eye, it appeared as if he had lost to Serbian Milorad Čavić. However, electronic sensors reported, and video evidence confirmed, that Phelps had touched the finishing wall of the pool one one-hundredth of a second before Čavić!

While the smallest of differences in time separated Phelps from Čavić, their remarkable performances reflected a common commitment to spend thousands of hours in training. Each athlete dedicated years of his life to perfecting his technique and to building his strength and stamina prior to swimming in Beijing. To compete at the Olympics, to be the best in the world, Phelps and Čavić had to be incredibly disciplined in how they used time.

What's true for Olympians is true for leaders: how they spend time largely determines their level of success. Influential people understand that time is the most precious commodity on earth. As a result, they know where their time goes. They continually analyse how they are using their time and repeatedly ask themselves the question, 'am I making the most of the minutes in my day?'

As a leader, it's not always immediately clear which activities deserve priority placement on your calendar. How do you judge whether something is worthy of your time and attention? Over the course of my career, I've used the following formula in order to determine where to devote my time.

Step one: Rate the task in terms of importance.

- Critical = 5 points
- Necessary = 4 points
- Important = 3 points
- Helpful = 2 points
- Marginal = 1 point

Step two: Rate the task according to its urgency, or when it needs to be done.

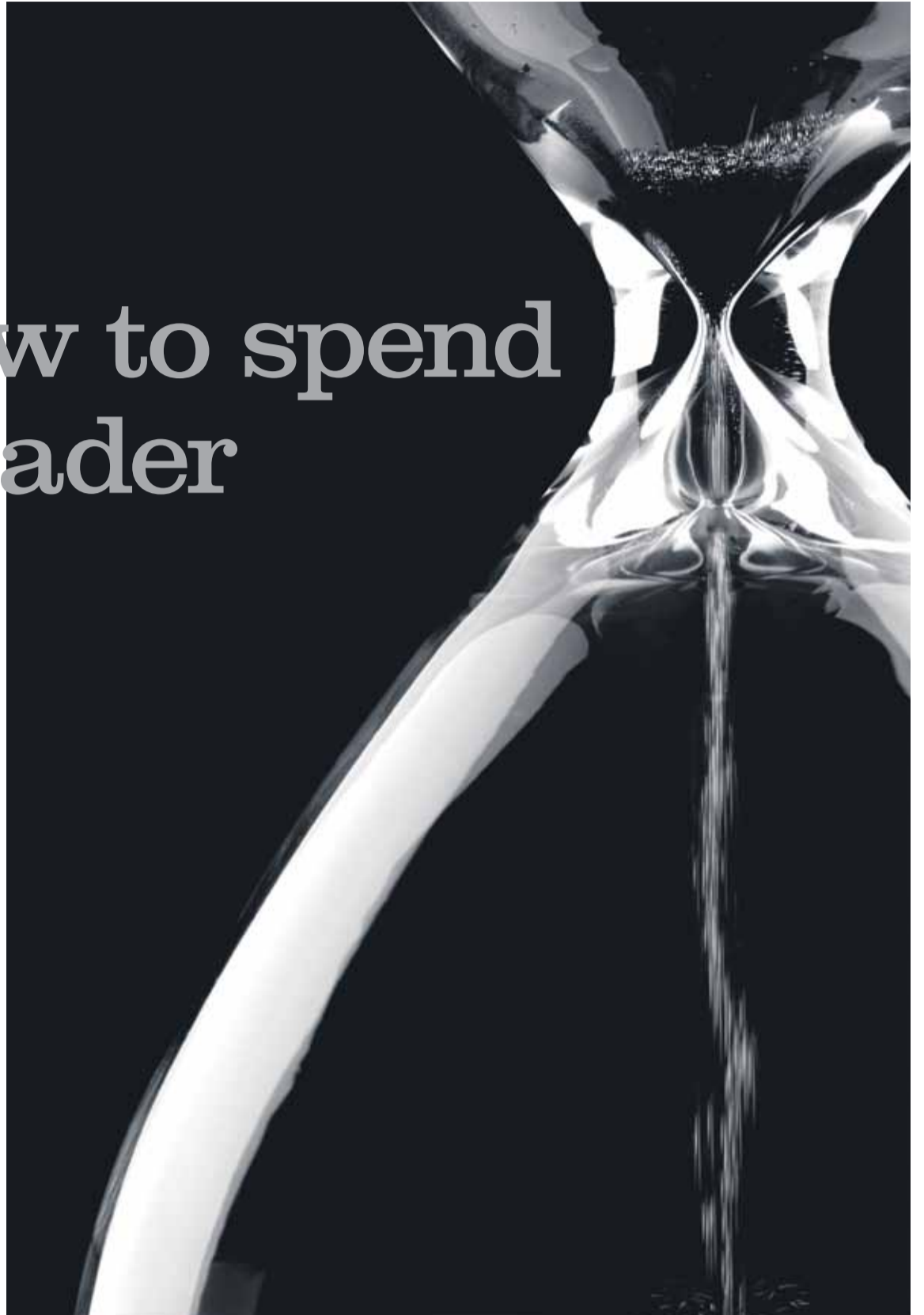
- This month = 5 points
- Next month = 4 points
- This quarter = 3 points
- Next quarter = 2 points
- End of year = 1 point

Step three: Multiply the rate of importance by the rate of urgency. For example, a critical task (5 points) needing to be completed by next month (4 points) would have a score of 20 (5 x 4).

After assigning each task a number, make a new to-do list. Rank the items from highest to lowest score. That's a smart way to plan your day.

How you spend your time is an important question not only for you but also for your team. People tend to take their cues from the leader when it comes to time management. Therefore, you want to make sure there's a match between your actions, your business priorities and your team's activities.

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Welcome to my space

By Marc Chan

Society around us is craving for relationship and yet what we do as leaders often acts more as a deterrent than help to meet this need.

We live in an information overloaded society and we sometimes intentionally get deeper into it. Since I began managing an information technology department, I have been to many seminars and courses. Yet, I often wonder how much of this is helping to satisfy my thirst for relationship. In more than 20 years of attending conferences, I can only think of one

principle that transformed me as a leader. I cannot remember what theory it was called or who came up with the idea – I will simply call it the 'welcome to my space' principle.

As leaders, we often fail to think about the way in which we relate to others. When we move into an office, we tend to place the desk in such a way that we will be seated behind it and most of the time facing the door. We place a couple of seats in front of the desk for others to sit on when we talk to them. Simple thing and most will do this.

But, what message are we giving to others when we do this? When someone walks into our office, we are seated on the opposite side of the desk – well, really with a desk in between us! I am in control and I am protecting my space. I am in authority and you are the vulnerable one. I can show you

where the door is because I can see it. You shall not invade my space!

On the other hand, when we are seated in such a way that there is no desk in between, I am telling the other person 'welcome to my space'. We do not have any barrier between us and feel free to join in. Jesus Christ, the ultimate example of leadership, has this attitude of openness that draws people to Him even though He has the authority and power. He sat down to eat on the same level as those whom the others classified as 'sinners' – no desk in between. His message has always been, 'welcome to my space'.

Marc Chan is Consultant, Cross Cultural and Indigenous Ministries with Baptist Churches Western Australia.

events calendar

August

- 5 August Media Prayer Day,
www.mediaprayerday.com
- 8-11 August Empowered, Churchlands
Christian Fellowship,
www.globalawakening.com
- 9 August Christians in the Marketplace
Networking Dinner, Joondalup
Resort Country Club,
www.citm.org.au
- 10-11 August Israel and the Nations
Conference,
Winthrop Baptist College,
carmelconferenceaustralia@gmail.com
- 14 August South Perth Baptist Church
Dinner and Birthday Party,
Bocilli Restaurant, 9368 1479
- 17 August Governor's Prayer Breakfast,
Burswood Entertainment
Complex, www.gpbwa.org

September

- 4-8 September Asia Pacific Baptist Congress,
Malaysia,
www.apbf.info/Congress2012

- 9 September Be Love Sunday, Baptist World
Aid Australia,
www.baptistworldaid.org.au
- 14-15 September Fresh Women's Conference,
Riverview Church,
www.freshconference.net
- 18-21 September I Hear the Sound of Joy
Victory Conference,
www.victoryconference.com.au
- 24 September Vose Seminary Open Night,
Vose Seminary, www.vose.edu.au
- 29 September
-1 October Sportsfest, BCWA,
www.sportsfest.org.au

October

- 19-21 October Just Prayer,
www.globalinteraction.org.au
- 19 October Legends of the Faith, Woodvale
Baptist Church, 9309 4044
- 26-27 October Global Leadership Summit 2012,
Riverview Church,
www.willowcreek.org.au

OPEN NIGHT

7PM, MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 2012

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- Your views (letters to the editor)

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Chazown

www.chazown.com

Chazown is the Hebrew word for vision, and it's what God had in mind for you when you were created. Each of us is a masterpiece, placed on earth for a unique purpose that's solely ours to fulfill. Chazown.com is another free online offering from www.lifechurch.tv and features six interactive video segments and step-by-step personal exercises to help you find, name and live out your own personal unique vision. Chazown.com can be completed on your own or as part of a small group and is based on the book of the same name by Craig Groeschel and includes the development of a personal timeline which gives you a big picture overview of the people, events and circumstances that have shaped your life. Chazown.com will help you see what God has in mind for you from your past experiences.

watch



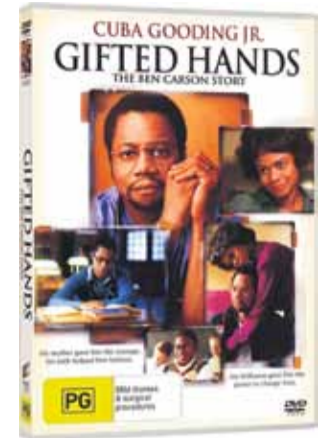
Elizabeth's Gift

Elizabeth's Gift is a touching and thrilling story that follows loving parents, Laura and Steve, as they tragically lose their precious daughter to a rare heart condition. Grief-stricken Laura and Steve are left to pick up the shattered pieces of their 'once perfect' life. Through a series of unforeseen events, Laura and Steve are guided to a homeless girl called Punkin who is fending for herself on the streets, desperately trying to escape from the clutches of a ruthless villain. This is a heart-warming story you won't want to miss.



Mama Heidi

In a war ravaged city, inspirational missionaries Heidi and Rolland Baker arrived in Mozambique in 1944, to aid the poorest of the poor, by adopting a rundown orphanage. They begun educating and feeding the children, and praying for their healing. Through the hard times, even with threats of death, they experience amazing miracles: healing of the blind, crippled, and those afflicted with AIDS. Throughout Mozambique, they have set up hospitals and schools, and a foster program that welcomes new children weekly to find them good homes.



Gifted Hands

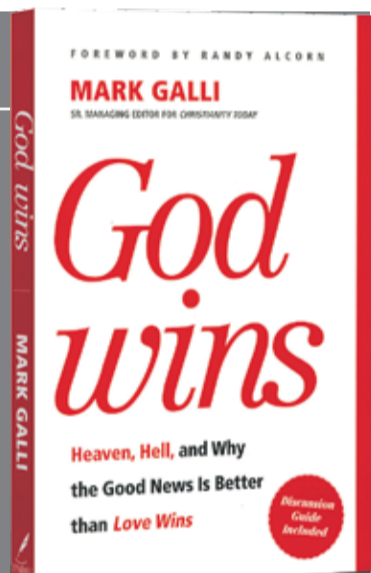
Oscar winner Cuba Gooding Jr. stars in this true story about renowned brain surgeon, Ben Carson, who overcame a broken home, poverty, prejudice, bad grades and a bad temper, to change the course of medicine forever. His mother never lost faith in him. Insisting he follow the opportunities she never had, she helped to grow his imagination, intelligence and most importantly, his belief in himself. That faith would be his gift – the thing that would drive him to follow his dream of becoming one of the world's leading neurosurgeons.

win

God Wins

By Mark Galli

Rob Bell's book, *Love Wins*, has generated an international conversation about ultimate issues such as the nature of hell, heaven and the ultimate destiny of humankind. Yet the book has also created unnecessary confusion. *God Wins* is a response to the provocative questions *Love Wins* has raised. In *God Wins*, Mark Galli explores the important questions that are left unasked and the issues left uncharted. Galli shows how *Love Wins* is not enough – there is even better news for our world!



The Advocate in conjunction with Word Bookstore is giving you an opportunity to win *God Wins*. To be in the draw, simply answer the following question:

Question:

God Wins is a response to which book by Rob Bell?

Entries close 17 August and all winners will be announced in the September edition of *The Advocate*.

Winners from Amy Inspired:
A De Kock, L Morris, H Muir

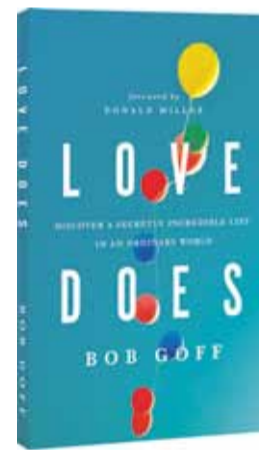
read



Named by God

By Kasey Van Norman

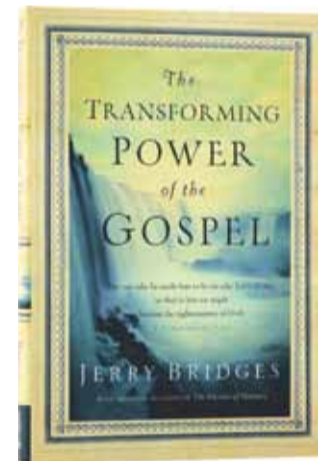
In many ways, Kasey Van Norman has suffered more heartbreak than one woman can bear. Growing up, she endured her parents' divorce, being assaulted and years of addictions. As an adult, she endured a miscarriage, the heartbreak (and restoration) of infidelity and a cancer diagnosis. But at the end of this, Kasey walked out of the wilderness and into a place of God's merciful and miraculous healing, and redemption. Kasey shares her story of God's infinite grace and compassion; allowing others to encounter a depth of Jesus they have never known before.



Love Does

By Bob Goff

Bob Goff has become something of a legend and his friends consider him the world's best-kept secret. Those same friends have long insisted he write a book. What follows are paradigm shifts, musings and stories from one of the world's most delightfully engaging and winsome people. What fuels his impact? Love. But it's not the kind of love that stops at thoughts and feelings. Bob's love takes action. Light and fun, unique and profound, the lessons drawn from Bob's life and attitude just might inspire you to be secretly incredible too.



The Transforming Power of the Gospel

By Jerry Bridges

Jerry Bridges loves the gospel and earnestly wants us to know it and love it also. And with grace being a key message throughout the gospel, Jerry brings this topic out to the place that God can capture our hearts and transform our lives. In *The Transforming Power of the Gospel* Jerry expresses that the ultimate power source for true spiritual growth is simply the gospel. He brings out the simplicity of the message of Christ and His abounding, loving grace, which is always towards us.

competition

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Please complete this form with your details and post it to:

God Wins Competition
11 East Parade East Perth WA 6004

Reviews and competition kindly supplied by Word Bookstore.

Website: www.word.com.au

Locations: Morley - 4 Wellington Road, phone 08 9375 3722
Victoria Park - 359 Albany Highway, phone 08 9361 7899



High hopes for WA paddler

Lorrayne Grullis, Middle and Senior Health and Physical Education Teacher from Carey Baptist College, is the first woman in Western Australia to gain a sponsor for the international sport stand up paddle surfing. While the sport may be new to many, it is already thriving on the east coast of Australia and around the world.



Photo: Peter Kemp

Lorrayne Grullis, the first woman in WA sponsored for stand up paddle surfing, trains near Tranby House in Maylands.

"I first saw stand up paddle [surfing] when I was on my honeymoon in Hawaii and it looked like a lot of fun so I wanted to give it a go," Lorrayne explained.

"During the summer school holidays, my husband and I went into Stand Up Paddle Perth in Scarborough, where the owner Darren offered to take us for a free lesson."

"I am always drawing on God for strength to push hard and keep going ..."

Lorrayne was hooked from the first moment and clearly showed talent for the sport.

"I absolutely loved my first session and it left me wanting more and before I knew it I was paddling three times a week."

Darren Marshall and Todd Flaughter from Stand Up Paddle Perth have agreed to sponsor Lorrayne as she pursues higher levels of competition. She says she picked up the technique quickly and wanted to get better and faster.

"The guys are helping a lot with my training and development. Working with talented paddlers such as Darren and Todd has taught me so much and they're constantly pushing

me to become better and better."

The boards used in stand up paddle surfing are similar to surf boards. The difference is they are longer, wider and more buoyant, enabling more comfortable balance. You then propel yourself with the paddle.

"It's a sport that works out my whole body, keeps me fit and I have a great time doing it."

There is another dimension to Lorrayne's pursuit of excellence: the faith factor.

"God is amazing! I have been so blessed to be given this opportunity, to have the ability to be involved in such a great sport and I am constantly blown away with the people God puts in to my life."

"I am always drawing on God for strength to push hard and keep going and He has never let me down. I have so much favour and it's all come from God."

Despite Lorrayne's love of her sport and her dedication, it is not

always easy.

"Getting up at 4.30am when it is two degrees in winter is hard work! But once I'm out on the water it makes it all worth it."

Lorrayne will represent Western Australia at the nationals in Port Macquarie in August and already has one eye on international competition.

"I would love to represent Australia one day in the World Series and travel the world paddling."

Holiday in Broome!

Broome Baptist Church are leasing a one bedroom, self contained Holiday unit situated adjacent to the Baptist Church manse.

\$500 per week April – Sept;
\$250 October – March or
\$100 per night.

For further information
please phone
08 9193 6135 or email
themckerlies@bigpond.com



- AGE 5
MUM PRAYS A PRAYER WITH ME AND I SAY 'YES' TO JESUS.
- AGE 14
I SAY 'YES' ALL OVER AGAIN AT YOUTH CAMP AT SERPENTINE.
- AGE 16
START LEADING AT CAMPS, START LEADING WORSHIP AT CHURCH.
- AGE 26
ONE OF THE PASTORS AT CHURCH SAYS, ALMOST INCIDENTALLY, 'I THINK GOD COULD BE CALLING YOU TO PLANT A CHURCH!'
- AGE 28
I'M WORKING HARD BUT DOWN DEEP, SOMETHING STIRRING. GOD'S WORKING ON MY HEART...
- AGE 31
I ENROL AT VOSE SEMINARY AND BEGIN A NEW JOURNEY OF LEARNING, GROWTH, EQUIPPING AND DISCOVERING JESUS IN COMMUNITY. PRETTY EXCITED...
- AGE 34
OUR FIRST SUNDAY!

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come, grow