

the advocate

"We want to bring God's Word and share the gospel with people." DES LAWSON [PAGE 7>>](#)

In conversation

Christian singer songwriter Jeremy Camp talks about his music career. [PAGE 12>>](#)



Photo: AAP/ Penny Bradfield

Attorney General Nicola Roxon and Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth Peter Garrett speak about funding for the school chaplains program in Canberra on Wednesday 20 June.

Chaplains safe for now

A decision by the High Court of Australia in late June has ruled against the way the National School Chaplaincy Program has been funded since it was set up by the Howard coalition government in 2007. The court ruled in a 6-1 majority.

YouthCARE CEO, Stanley Jeyaraj, said he is pleased that the High Court made no adverse findings about the validity of the National School Chaplaincy Program by the Commonwealth. The judgement found that the service of providing chaplains in public

schools was not inconsistent with the Constitution.

The High Court ruled that the National School Chaplaincy Program exceeds the Commonwealth's funding powers.

In Canberra, Attorney General Nicola Roxon announced the government would continue

funding the program, despite the landmark ruling.

With the strong support expressed by both federal and state governments for school chaplaincy, YouthCARE – the provider of school chaplaincy to 95 percent of public schools in WA – is optimistic that school chaplaincy will continue in West Australian public schools.

"This is a matter between the state and federal governments and it is imperative that the faulty funding mechanism be addressed and rectified as soon as possible," Stanley said.

Initial responses from the WA Minister for Education, The Hon. Elizabeth Constable MLA, the Commonwealth Attorney General and the Minister for Education show they are committed to resolving the matter quickly.

"I urge Colin Barnett and the Minister for Education, to act swiftly and negotiate a settlement of this matter with the Commonwealth. The uncertainty created by the judgement needs to be resolved as soon as possible for the sake of thousands of students, parents and teachers who value this program," Stanley said.

Green Team growing in The Zone

The Green Team are seeking volunteers to work at The Zone in Dunsborough during Leavers Week in late November.

More than 200 volunteers are needed to run The Zone this year. Recruitment of volunteers began in early June when the

Green Team's updated website was launched.

Young adults over the age of 18 can register online for a place on the team. All approved Green Team members complete a training

session before Leavers Week.

A video highlighting the work of the Green Team during the 2011 Leavers Week along with posters and information leaflets are available.

Michelle Smoker, Green Team Volunteer Coordinator, said keeping school leavers safe during their celebrations at the end of

high school is a top priority for the Green Team.

The work of the Green Team has had a significant impact on the culture of young people attending Leavers Week with the number of arrests decreasing by 95 percent over the past four years.

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



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Aboriginal Gospel Group is uniting God's people through music >>



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Coverge 2012 brought together 1,000 people at Wesley Church >>



16 BT RunClub

Members of the BT RunClub bond over running >>

“Living lives that are fully dependent on God in obedience to Christ and the Bible.”

BAPTIST CHURCHES WESTERN AUSTRALIA





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.

The journey of life

I well remember a delightful Chinese grandfather resisting my invitation to compare the Australian society he had adopted with the one in which he was born. Eventually, reluctantly, he said, "In my homeland, we looked forward to being old. It was a place of honour and respect. In Australia, everyone is desperate to stay young. There are so many lonely older people".

Recently George Burns, our Nightline clinical psychologist returned from his twelfth visit to the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan. On a staggeringly steep hike to a remote monastic village that could indeed have been the set for Shangri La, a young recovering addict raised the issue

of Australia's aged care facilities.

"Is it true that you lock old people away in homes in your country?" he wanted to know. When I said "Yes", he asked me in utter surprise, "Why?" I had to confess the question was a good one. The concept is so alien to a community where extended

families are still the norm ... and the elderly are respected for their wisdom and nurtured by the families who allow them time for meditation and prayer.

I'm proud to be a Community Ambassador and Patron for Baptistcare and celebrate the important work they do. Those who work in the aged care sector, however, have spoken to me of the isolation endured by many and the feeling of a lack of worth they experience. Within churches too, outdated preconceptions can squander the rich gift our seniors represent. Programs may never move beyond bus rides and carpet bowls. Delightful as these activities undoubtedly are,

do we really believe all the life experience of our elders is meant to be parked in a deckchair to wait for God? They have a wisdom gained only through years on the journey of life.



Dr Brian Harris

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

On loss and gratitude ...

My mother died a few weeks ago. In all her 86 years she had never done that before, and we had come to think that perhaps she never would. Alas, it was not to be ...

It all happened very quickly. A brain tumour was diagnosed on 19 April. Less than four weeks later, the day arrived, which the Scottish Book of Common Prayer describes as the one when 'the evening cometh, and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work done'. For Mum, it was 15 May, that her work was done ...

It fell to me to give the eulogy. How do you summarise and

honour 86 years in ten minutes? I was pleased with what I said, but kept on thinking of things I could have added ... and they are all good.

What I did remember to say included this, "St Paul tells us that the fruit of the presence of God's Spirit in our life is that we show 'Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self control'. Though my mother was far too

modest to claim that she could tick each of those boxes, the reality is that she could. I learnt from my mother to spot the good in others, rather than the ill. I learnt to view the world through a lens of kindness and hopefulness. I learnt to accept and value people whoever they are. I learnt to laugh with people, but never at people. I learnt to be grateful, and to marvel at things both great and small. I learnt that love can change the world".

Some day someone will speak a eulogy for me. Ah, that it would be so easy to find wonderful things to say. For as with my not indestructible mother, the day

when 'the fever of life is over' will dawn. To quote again from the Scottish Book of Common Prayer 'Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen'.

guest contributor



Dr Lucy Morris

Dr Lucy Morris is Chief Executive Officer of Baptistcare.

Facing the challenges of the future

The Federal Government recently announced their response to the Productivity Commission's Caring for Older Australians Report.

Baptistcare is one of the organisations that has been lobbying for changes to the current way aged care is funded and managed. We consistently hear from our residents and families seeking care for their older family members that aged care is hard to find out about, hard to access, and hard to get into, and families find themselves making difficult decisions in stressful situations while under emotional and financial pressure.

We were heartened by the Federal Government's commitment to start work on overhauling the failing system; we waited with eagerness to hear the details. We had told the Government the recommendations in the Report were worth implementing. Our disappointment has been intense, as there is less than \$600 million new money put into the system, the rest is existing money being reallocated. At the heart of our concern is the impact on our

capacity to deliver quality clinical care. Years of neglect and funding allocations at less than Consumer Price Index have left us with a system stretched to breaking point.

At particular risk are smaller not-for-profit providers in rural and regional Western Australia who, like all providers, face huge challenges recruiting qualified staff, have insufficient funds for wages, and limited access to capital to build and invest in new facilities. Older Australians are entering residential care much later in life, often with very complex care needs. Quality of care and life is essential for the individuals and their families as

they make this difficult decision. As a Christian organisation, we are concerned about our capacity to support the less financially well-off to access care.

It's a huge challenge for our country, our governments, our communities and families, in providing sufficient resources to ensure quality care is provided to older Australians. I suspect we will have many more trips to Canberra for a lot more conversations. Your support by contacting your local member of parliaments to keep this issue alive would be much appreciated.

For further information, please contact Baptistcare on 9282 8600.

Visit The Advocate online

www.theadvocate.tv

Our Professor wins award



Photo: Mark Graham

Professor Harvey Millar at the Fenner Medal award ceremony in Canberra in early May.

Professor Harvey Millar, a member at North Beach Baptist Church, recently won the Fenner Medal, a national science award that recognises distinguished research in biology by scientists 40 years of age and under.

Professor Millar, originally from Canberra, is a protein biochemist working at the University of Western Australia (UWA). He received the award during Science at the Shine Dome, the annual three-day event held by the Australian Academy of Science in Canberra.

"My research focuses on energy production in plants and how the process of respiration is affected by harsh climates," Professor Millar said. "Photosynthesis makes sugars using light energy, but plants still need to undertake respiration to break down sugars to drive their growth, development and tolerance to harsh environments."

"My work has shown how respiration can be protected in plant cells during environmental stress, how production of the antioxidant Vitamin C is controlled in plants, and how the complex links between respiration and plant growth can alter plant yields."

"These discoveries underpin new discoveries of how respiratory damage leads to cell ageing and disease, and is relevant to both plants and animals as both use a similar respiration process."

Professor Millar has been researching in this area of

biochemistry for more than 15 years.

He conducted research at the University of Oxford for several years in the late 1990s before starting at UWA in 1999.

“My research focuses on energy production in plants and how the process of respiration is affected by harsh climate.”

As well as continuing his research, Professor Millar teaches some undergraduate students at UWA but spends most of his time with eight postgraduate students and eight post-doctoral researchers who are training and researching in his laboratory.

"I have a research fellowship from the Australian Research

Council to concentrate on full-time research and research training. I am also the Director of a Research Centre at UWA called the Centre for Comparative Analysis of Biomolecular Networks."

"I don't see any real conflict between Christian faith and modern scientific research," Professor Millar said. "I realise that many Christians are concerned about science, but there really is not conspiracy in science to reject faith — it simply operates as a discipline outside of faith claims — it looks for and assesses facts — as a result it, by definition, leaves the realm of theology and belief alone. The data generated by science showcases the natural world which as a Christian I know to be God's creation, so I can research it with confidence that we are looking at the reality of what He made."

Professor Millar sees challenges for the future, with rising populations and limited resources.

"We need to find new ways to do what we did in the past in plant science and agriculture if we want to safeguard our children's future. We can certainly trust God in this, but He also equipped us to act and that is our responsibility."

Siblings reunited

Catherine Kirkman (80), from Mandurah Baptist Church, knew for many years that she had two brothers, but her mother refused to allow her any contact with them. In late May, at Perth International Airport, Catherine was reunited with her lost brothers Cecil (71) and Billy Davison (69).

Sent away from her birth mother when she was a toddler, Catherine spent some time in a children's home in the United Kingdom before being sent to Fairbridge Farm in Pinjarra in November 1938 as part of Kingsley Fairbridge's Child Emigration Society, later known as the Fairbridge Society.

In 1988 Catherine and her husband Kevin visited the United Kingdom and found Catherine's mother living in the north-east English city of Gateshead.

"She had married my biological father and they had two sons, my brothers," Catherine said. "But she refused to let me meet them. I came back to Australia deeply hurt, having been rejected again by my own family."

Her mother died in 2002. She never told her sons Cecil and Billy they had a sister in Australia.

"I remember going through a little case of photos Mum had," Cecil recalls. "I came across a photo of a young girl. I didn't

recognise her but written on the back was, 'From your loving daughter, Catherine'. Whoever she was Mum had written Billy's and my name there too and put kisses after them. We just assumed she didn't want to have any contact with us."

Cecil and Billy have lived their entire lives in the Gateshead area and were living about 150 metres from their mother's home when Catherine and Kevin visited in 1988.

Early this year, Catherine's daughter-in-law, Jane Kirkman, saw a photograph of Cecil at his granddaughter's twenty-first birthday party on Facebook. She had been looking for months to find someone from Catherine's family.

Jane made contact with Cecil's son and told him about his aunt and her family in Australia. It took a week for him to tell Cecil. After some emails and phone calls, Cecil finally phoned Catherine.

"I put the phone down after Cecil and Billy phoned. In one night I found two brothers," said Catherine.

75 years strong



Photo: YouthCARE

Baptists (left-right) Coralyn Williams, Reg Ashley and Grace Phillips were recently honoured by YouthCARE for their work as volunteers.

YouthCARE honoured the work of its volunteers during National Volunteer Week in May. Amongst those attending a special morning tea in their honour at YouthCARE head office, were Baptist church members Coralyn Williams (Dalkeith Baptist Church), Reg Ashley (Attadale Baptist Church) and Grace Phillips (Girrawheen Baptist Church). The trio have collectively been serving as YouthCARE volunteers for 75 years.

Grace became a volunteer Christian Religious Education (CRE) teacher in 1978 after being asked by her pastor's wife what she was doing on Wednesday mornings. The now grandmother of six explained that they both had their babies six weeks apart and as the mother of a newborn, she then 'didn't have much more to do than watching my baby sleep'.

"So, a lady at church minded our children whilst we were teaching CRE," she explained. Grace started teaching CRE at Hainsworth Primary School, which has since been demolished. She now teaches CRE at Westminster Junior and Senior Primary School on Tuesdays and Mondays respectively. Faye

Gabrielson, the pastor's wife who initially introduced Grace to CRE, also continues to teach CRE.

Coralyn has been serving YouthCARE as a volunteer since 1984. "I've always had a passion for CRE and chaplaincy," she said. Coralyn was the first chairperson of the Shenton YouthCARE Council.

Reg has been involved as a YouthCARE Council volunteer for 14 years.

"I like to do something outside of myself, caring for the community, caring to help, showing people that they matter," he said.

The retired public servant said that he particularly enjoyed being involved in raising funds for chaplaincy at Melville Senior High School.

At the tea held in their honour, YouthCARE Board Chairman, Pastor John Hardy said that volunteers' involvement in telling the YouthCARE story, their fundraising and support activities or teaching CRE in public primary schools, have largely contributed to the organisation's success over the years.

"The legacy that you are offering fills one with gratitude and pride. Please be assured that you and your contribution matters," Pastor Hardy said.

YouthCARE celebrates 40 years of CRE and 30 years of school chaplaincy this year.

According to Volunteering Australia, there are more than six million Australians who volunteer for various causes.

Formation Day



Photo: Jill Birt

Steve Ingram led the combined staff in creating a web with a ball of string highlighting the connections and relationships among the combined staff on a recent Formation Day.

The combined staff of Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) recently met for lunch with the student body of Vose Seminary at the Bentley campus.

The BCWA staff includes the ministry and administration team from the Ministry Centre in Rivervale and the academic and administration staff at Vose Seminary.

"It's really good for us to get together," Director of Ministries, Mark Wilson, said. "Being in two locations is a challenge to strong unity."

Wednesday mornings at the Vose campus is known as Formation Day with all full-time students on campus at least until lunch time.

"We meet in small groups for part of the day," Monica O'Neil, Director of Vose Leadership, said. "One small

group usually prepares lunch for all the staff and students."

Director of Vose Mission, Neil Anderson's group prepared a variety of soups and fresh bread rolls for more than 80 people that attended the lunch.

Student Lachlan Patterson said he was unaware of how many people worked at the Ministry Centre and valued meeting them. "It was good to put faces to names," Lachlan said.

Steve Ingram, Leadership Development Consultant for BCWA, led the combined staff in creating a web with a ball of string to highlight the connections and relationships among the combined staff.

The group spent an extended time praying for one another. Later the Rivervale team drove back to the Ministry Centre.

digital church

08/06/2012
Adele Konyndyk
www.thinkchristian.net

I wish I could call upon (Eugene) Peterson to pitch his contemporary paraphrase of Ecclesiastes to the denizens in the disturbingly materialistic and misogynistic world of 'Mad Men'.

09/06/2012
Ajith Fernando
www.koinoniblog.net

... a major trigger for burnout is unhappiness over our lot. Those who are happy with life are generally not candidates for burnout. One of the

greatest sources of lasting joy in life is truth. This joy can be experienced independent of the challenges we face. In fact it helps us live through the most difficult challenges.

13/06/2012
Jon Acuff
www.jonacuff.com

Since the dawn of time, the enemy has tried to play just one trick. Though it has a thousand different variations and a million different manifestations, it boils down to the same lie every time. God is not good ... it's a lie.

13/06/2012
Mark Lafler
www.biblede.net

Despite an appearance of inaction the Kingdom of God is growing and a harvest will come ... However, the Kingdom will not be delayed or encouraged with human intervention.

briefs

Baptisms

Virginia Weise (North Beach Baptist Church) was baptised on 20 May. Olivia Patterson, Steve and Tammara Stutley and Jo Kearsley were baptised at Gnowangerup Baptist Church on 20 and 27 May. Austin Coetzer, Jay Cook, Sonya Jeyabalan, Jackie Lower, Allan Mills and Jade Vella were baptised at Woodvale Baptist Church on 10 June.

Engagement

Anita Olsen (North Beach Baptist Church) and Jason Kingston (Morley Baptist Church) recently announced their engagement.

Marriage

North Beach Baptist Church couple Zoe Athans and Scott Miller were married in Broome by Pastor Mark Parsons on 9 May.

Pastoral changes

Chris and Annette Turk commenced at Tom Price Baptist Church in late May. Grant Hendy was inducted as Senior Pastor at North Beach Baptist Church in late May.

Concert for Sam's kids

Turks for Tom Price

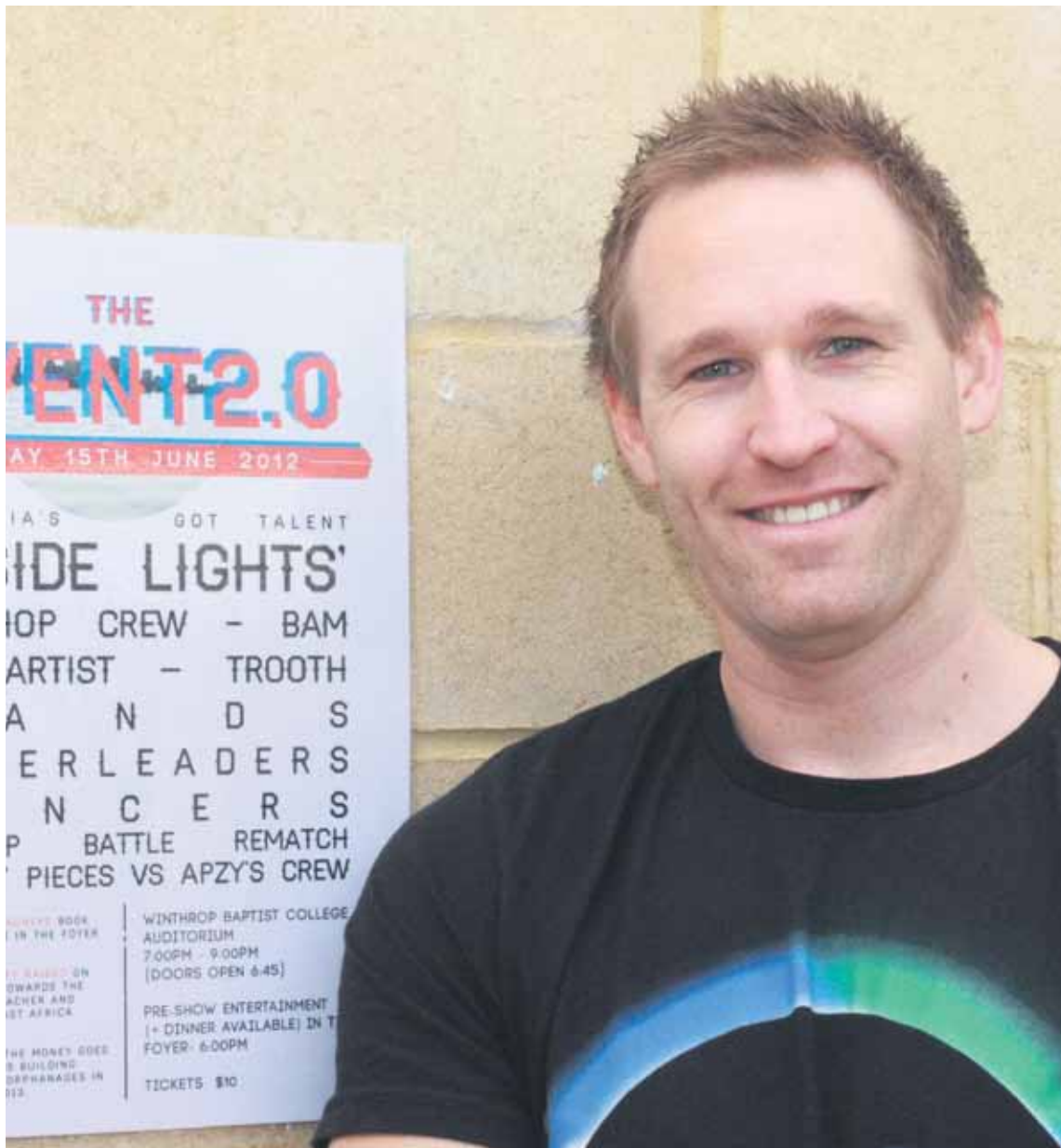


Photo: Jill Birt

School Chaplain Adam Przytula is proud of the hard work of Winthrop Baptist College students to organise a fundraising event to help children in Africa.

Students from Winthrop Baptist College raised \$6,500 to help The Machine Gun Preacher, Sam Childers, build two orphanages in East Africa by running a music event at the College on 15 June.

School Chaplain Adam Przytula said the students were keen to help after Sam visited the College recently. Sam is a former drug-dealing criminal who embraced

Christianity and found an unexpected calling as the saviour of hundreds of kidnapped and orphaned children in Northern Uganda and Southern Sudan, Africa.

Following the visit from Sam,

planning started immediately for The Event 2.0. "The students really got behind the event," Adam said. "Many of them were impacted by Sam's visit to the school."

Beside Lights, a band that is currently heading towards the grand final of the television show Australia's Got Talent, was the headline act.

Rap artist, Trooth, who has featured on radio station Triple J Unearthed, also performed.

Other acts included solo artist Catherine Lee and hip hop crew BAM.

On the night 450 people arrived for the two hour event in the Winthrop Somerville Auditorium at the Murdoch school campus.

For an hour before The Event 2.0 commenced, Winthrop Baptist College and Somerville Baptist College students entertained guests in the foyer of the Auditorium with music. Food prepared by staff, students and parents was also available for guests to purchase.

Sam supplied 12 photography prints of his work with children in Africa taken by Kevin Evans for a silent auction during The Event 2.0.

All money raised through The Event 2.0 went directly to Sam's work to build two new self-sustaining orphanages in Ethiopia and Uganda. As well as a safe place for children damaged by war to live, learn and grow, the orphanages include training for work in trade skills.

Sam spoke to the audience via a short video, thanking them for their support and encouraging the students from Winthrop Baptist College to continue with the generous support.

Students worked hard on the night in a number of roles including ticketing, parking, ushering, backstage hands, assistants to key roles and working with the technical crew.

Adam sees a change in the culture of the students from being very self-focused to being aware of others and wanting to help.

"When we first took part in fundraisers in 2010, kids were donating 20 or 30 cents, but this year its \$10 or \$20, so the culture is changing and Sam helped move that along," Adam said.

"I'm so proud of them all and what they've done to help the hurting children Sam Childers is working with in Africa," Adam said.

Chris and Annette Turk recently arrived in Tom Price to take up an interim post as pastor for the Pilbara church until the end of the year.

"This is not the first time we've been to Tom Price," Chris said before leaving Perth. "We were in Tom Price in 2010 for three months of long service leave and really enjoyed the people and the town."

"We're looking forward to working with the local church," Annette said.

The Turks recently retired from ministry in Junee, New South Wales. They pastored Junee Baptist Church for six years then attended the church for a further five years.

"Most recently we've been sharing with Junee Uniting Church and Cootamundra Baptist Church," Chris said.

"I've been working full-time in the local prison chaplaincy for six and a half years full-time and five years as a seasonal chaplain," Chris said. "Annette continues to mark Prison Fellowship's Crossroad Bible correspondence course lessons."

"We both trained at the WEC College (Worldview Centre) in Launceston then spent the next 11 years in Home Base ministry in Sydney. Two of our sons have served with WEC overseas."

"The people of Tom Price know where they want to go; we're coming to learn and 'be'," Chris said. "We love the church and want to encourage and equip the folk here at Tom Price and release gifted people into leadership and ministry roles."



Photo: Jill Birt

Win Juggins, from Esperance Baptist Church, celebrated her 104th birthday on 31 May. She is pictured here with Senior Pastor Chris Boland.

Win Juggins turns 104

Win Juggins, a member of Esperance Baptist Church, celebrated her 104th birthday on 31 May.

Until she moved into Esperance Aged Hostel at the age of 100, Win travelled from home to church each week on her gopher.

"She has been a faithful member of Esperance Baptist and contributed to the local community for many years," Esperance Baptist Church Pastor,

Chris Boland said. "For many years she knitted baby booties and presented a set to every new baby born at the Esperance Hospital."

Pastor Boland and his wife Rosemary visited Win the day before her birthday and delivered a fresh flower arrangement from the church.

"Win's son flew down to Esperance from Perth on her birthday and took her for a drive around the town and beaches after she cut her birthday cake at morning tea time," Rosemary said. "She is such a delight. Her hearing is not so good but her

sense of humour is spot on."

The church has an active ministry at the nursing home and aged hostel with a team of retirees visiting the facility each week.

"Not only do we have Win in the nursing home, but three other residents are part of our Church family as well," Chris said. "Another expects to be moving in shortly."

Trust helps Vose Seminary



Photo: Dushan Jeyabalan

Descendants of the Thomas Bailey Trust founder, Alice Baird, joined Vose Seminary and Baptist Ministry staff at the dedication of the refurbished section of Vose Seminary.

Vose Seminary hosted a special gathering in June to unveil the refurbished Thomas Bailey wing of the college that accommodates the activities of Vose Leadership. The Thomas Bailey trust has generously contributed to capital projects over many years.

Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) Business Manager, Terry Hicks, said the significant financial contribution from the Thomas Bailey Trust to the Seminary over many years makes it appropriate to recognise this by dedicating the refurbished old student quarters as the Thomas Bailey wing.

The refurbishment involved the conversion of the wing, which previously housed single students, to offices and a board room.

The Trust was established on 6 December 1995 by the late Alice Baird to honour the memory of her grandfather, Thomas Bailey, who was a serving missionary with the Baptist Missionary Society (UK) in India from 1861 to 1902.

Alice's father, Ernest Hague Bailey was Thomas's first son with his second wife, Lydia. He travelled from India to South Australia in 1897 where he met his future wife, Mabel Le Dans. They were married at Perth Baptist Church in 1899.

The Bailey family farmed at Wongan Hills for many years. Regretfully a fire later destroyed the homestead and all of the early family records were lost.

Alice was born in 1905, the fourth of eight children. She died in 2004. She was a member of the Leederville Baptist Church until it closed and she then joined Perth Baptist Church. Alice developed a special ministry as a donor and an encourager of new churches, and other areas where she saw a need. This commitment and vision led to

the creation of the Thomas Bailey Trust.

Those in attendance included great grand-daughter of Thomas Bailey, Maureen Saint and her cousin, Elizabeth Jenner, along with her husband Bruce, who pastored several Baptist Churches prior to retirement.

"I was pleasantly surprised and enjoyed seeing the work that had been done at Vose Seminary," Maureen said.

The Thomas Bailey Trust is an independent body separate from the Baptist Union Western Australia (BUWA) although its trustees are appointed by the BUWA Council. Its main aim is to assist Baptist work by providing funds for capital items.



Photo: Jill Birt

Scott and Bek Falconer with baby Josiah and Levi are ready to head to Mozambique to join the Global Interaction Australia team working with the Ywao people.

Falconers set to soar

Scott and Bek Falconer and their two sons, Levi (21 months) and Josiah (12 weeks) are almost ready to join the Global Interaction Australia (GIA) team in Mozambique.

"We're really surprised at how fast the last couple of months have flown," Scott said. "Josiah's arrival changed the way we do things and we've been visiting a number of churches too. I just have one more exam to do at Vose Seminary to complete this semester's work."

With all their inoculations complete and packing underway, the Falconers are about to book their tickets to Africa.

"We are so grateful that our financial support team has reached 97 percent," Bek said. "We still have plenty of opportunities for people to partner with us. We'd love more people to join our prayer support team; we can't go without a strong group willing to pray with us and for us for the next few years."

"We'd really appreciate people praying for our visa situation," Scott said. "It seems the situation in Mozambique is a little more

complicated now than it used to be regarding granting of visas, so if people would pray that our visas come through smoothly, that would be great."

"Churches have been so welcoming and interested, supportive and encouraging as we've visited them in the city and country Western Australia," Bek said. "We are so grateful."

The Falconers expect their commissioning service will be held at Churchlands Christian Fellowship in Balcatta towards the end of July.

briefs

Lao pastor's arrest

Asa, a 53 year old Lao pastor remains behind bars after Lao police arrested him on 6 June for encouraging others to convert to Christianity, a spokesman from the group Human Rights Watch for Lao Religious Freedom (HRWLRF) confirmed to Compass Direct News. Police drove Asa to the Luang Namtha provincial prison, 50 kilometres away thus limiting visits by concerned family or friends. Two years ago police forced Asa to sign documents agreeing that he would neither proclaim Christ nor lead people to Christianity. Many people in Peeyeur and surrounding villages, touched

by Asa's life and testimony, have accepted Christ.

Moroccan churches

Arab World Ministries reports Moroccan churches, which meet underground, were weakened by the expulsions of large numbers of expatriate workers in 2010 and the harassment of local believers. Many house churches stopped meeting and not all of them have restarted. Authorities watch believers and there is a lack of trust and unity among them. Significant numbers of Moroccan Berbers have come to Christ in rural areas. It is still unsure what impact the Arab Spring and new government will have on the

church, but there is a spirit of optimism. Since most Moroccans have internet access, Christian websites are valuable in reaching them.

Syrian refugees

Mission Network News reports E3 Partners estimates that some 300,000 refugees from Syria have fled into Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan during the last 14 months of violence, and there are no signs of the exodus slowing. The number of deaths range from 10,000 to 20,000. Many Christian groups in Jordan are severely overwhelmed as they try to take on some of the work the government cannot

handle. E3 calls it one of the largest humanitarian disasters in a decade. Meanwhile, there is evidence of increased tension spilling over into certain parts of Lebanon, which has had close ties to Syria.



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Group brings God's Word

Des Lawson, a Budimymia man, plays guitar and sings with the Aboriginal Gospel Group that plans to visit churches to build unity among God's people.

"If you just watch the evening news you'll get a pretty bad idea about Aboriginal people," Des said. "We want to show churches something different, a different perspective on our community. We want to share with them our music and our love for God."

Dave Smith works at Gilmore College in Kwinana, coordinating the Follow the Dream program for aspiring Aboriginal students. Dave worships at Lakelands Community Church and he's part of the leadership team of the Southern District Aboriginal Christian Fellowship that meets at Powerhouse Church (Church of Christ) in Kwinana on Sunday nights.

"I was sitting in church one night and got to thinking about how much the guys could contribute to the wider church," Dave said. "So after a lot of prayer and conversations, we started the group."

"We've got our first invitation to visit the congregation at Mandurah Baptist," Des said. "We want to bring God's Word and share the gospel with people. You'd probably call our music 'country gospel'. It touches our hearts. It's one way God speaks to us."

God has spoken clearly to Des over the years.

"About six years ago I was on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland,

dealing drugs, addicted to alcohol and drugs," Des said. "I wasn't in a good place. I had a lot of hurt and anger in my life and I didn't know how to deal with it."

"I'd been taken from my grandma and sent to a mission in Mullewa when I was young and that left a lot of pain. But meeting Jesus has changed that. I needed to learn to forgive. You can't forget, but you don't have to be controlled by your anger and hatred. Jesus can change that."

Des's wife, Cheryl, is also in the Gospel Group. "I don't play guitar or anything," Cheryl said. "I sing."

There are seven or eight men and women in the group, depending on who is available on the day.

"We sing some of our favourite songs and tell people our stories about God working in our lives. People will be able to relate to this. We're all one blood," Des said. "Our music comes from the heart."

Dave has lectured in Aboriginal Studies at a Perth Bible College where he is currently studying for his Masters.

"Growing up I had quite a bit to do with Aboriginal people as my Dad's a Pastor and we lived in a number of country areas," Dave said. "Bringing unity to the churches of Perth is an important part of what we want to do."

"I strongly believe our churches need to engage more with Aboriginal people."



Dave Smith (left) with Des Lawson, from the Aboriginal Gospel Group, who is keen to promote unity among Perth churches.

Photo: Jill Birt

Palliative care for dying

Baptistcare launched the first of many Palliative Care Teams at three of its 13 residential aged care facilities in June.

"Our society is uncomfortable talking about death and we are awkward in offering support. We have marginalised death in our communities, and as a consequence we leave

“Palliative care and the anticipated next step of death is often a difficult subject for people to discuss ...”

individuals and families feeling very alone when dealing with the practical issues arising from dying and death," Dr Lucy Morris, Baptistcare's Chief Executive Officer said.

The new initiative was introduced at Baptistcare's facilities in Albany.

Groups of five staff per facility are being equipped with the knowledge, skills and experience to provide clear and consistent advice, support and

best practice palliative care.

Palliative care is an integral part of holistic care, and as part of their vision to provide transformational services, Baptistcare also includes End

of Life Ministry and chaplaincy services. Palliative care provides a privileged opportunity to share a very special time in the lives of residents and their families.

"Palliative care and the anticipated next step of death is often a difficult subject for people to discuss, until they come close to the end of their lives," Dr Morris said. "Our role is to make it easier for individuals and families to talk about and to provide support, so that people can deal with its implications and, most importantly, feel alive until the moment they die."

The capacity of being able to die with dignity and peace is a gift that Baptistcare strives to make possible, with the presence of service chaplains and trained staff.

Churches adopt policy

In the last three years, 898 people from 58 Baptist churches in Western Australia have completed the Safe Church training.

The Safe Church program is a safety policy about how to do ministry better, protecting God's people and the church's staff and volunteers.

"Safety is an issue that churches recognise they need to have a policy for as there are significant issues with public liability and our community reputation," Church Leadership Consultant with Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA), Steve Ingram said. "Although the liability rests firmly on the local churches' shoulders, we're keen as a denomination to assist our churches."

"We're running training events north, east and south of the city each quarter and visiting regional areas too," Steve said.

"I'm happy to discuss the policy if churches have questions."

Churches can adopt the policy by simply voting on it as a leadership or church, then ensure all their leaders do the course and follow through with implementing the rest of the policy over a period of time.

"Our insurers are impressed by the number of churches that have adopted the Safe Church policy," BCWA Insurance Officer Jill Birt said. "It's encouraging to see churches grappling with the legal changes that are happening in this field."

Churches can book training seminars through BCWA. For more information visit www.baptistwa.asn.au.

Bussau on micro finance



Photo: Opportunity International Australia

Former slum-dweller and Opportunity International Australia's client Padmavathy used a small loan to start a market stall selling vegetables in India. The business now pays for her children to go to school.

'Be yourself. Everyone else is taken!' This Oscar Wilde quote was part of Opportunity International Australia founder, David Bussau's closing words of wisdom to over 400 church, ministry and business leaders in Melbourne recently.

The Christian Management Association in June hosted a conference full of inspiring input, exceptional networking opportunities and ministry-focussed professional development.

The conference was aptly titled 'Courageous leadership in turbulent times'. With new charity reform coming into play and economic and natural crisis surrounding the past few years, this conference was not only extremely informative and encouraging, it projected an

atmosphere of a 'united front' for the Kingdom of God within business and leadership.

Attendees enjoyed dinner in the Hilton on the Park's beautiful ballroom, as an awe-inspiring and raw interview took place. Scott Parry-Jones interviewed Order of Australia

recipient, David. David has been in the public eye for many years and has received many awards including the Ernst & Young Australian Entrepreneur of the Year in 2003, the Australian Council for International Development Human Rights Award in 2006 and Senior Australian of the Year in 2008, to name a few.

David believes he was born an entrepreneur. It was a gifting that he realised and took on board at a young age. Growing up in an Anglican boys home increased his resilience, lateral thinking and risk-taking ability, but David says, "The small things were the training grounds for the bigger things".

David and his family had the opportunity to live in an Indonesian village for five years in the late 1970s. During this time he noted how simply they lived and how totally reliant on God the village people were. Watching the villagers mortgage their children into child labour to pay debt, he began to think creatively about how to mobilise and empower people to release them from bondage.

He began by providing a \$100 micro-loan to a local Indonesian for starting and growing a sewing business. Today the family runs an import/export business and owns a fleet of taxis, providing a wide range of employment for the local community.

"We are created to be productive. If you want to help people, you need to empower them economically. That releases the family and children from bondage," states David.

David explains that micro-loans are the key. "Loans create wealth to help others. It shares it amongst more ... not just one person. Position people to make righteous decisions and release them to do it."

David has also founded 17 international ministries. He mentions that many 'founders' have trouble letting go and releasing their managers or leaders as their identity is wrapped in the ministry.

"Encourage them [leaders/managers] that they have the ability and the resources. Give them a manual, but you have to release them. Give them wings and space. Releasing is the key. Ownership ends up strangling you and you become what you own."

David's wisdom and experience commanded the attention of all in the ballroom. His trust in God is evident. He has success in his trail, but he has learnt many valuable lessons. "God isn't impressed with our achievements. He gives us relationships so that we can bless that person or people. It's not about what we can get out of it. Relationship is the key. Go in open-handed. What can I give or do?"

Scott asked David if he had any final words for leaders. He replied, "Find your own identity – don't become an extension of your organisation. What has God created you for? You are unique. Take risks for the Kingdom! There's no condemnation in Christ. Don't be afraid to screw up for God!"

Used with permission from Christian Today Australia. Belinda Croft is Press Service International volunteer news writer for Christian Today Australia.



Children living in poverty face many challenges. You can give them a chance to shine. Call 1300 789 991 or visit www.baptistworldaid.org.au today.

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN." MATTHEW 5:16



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A ministry of Baptist Churches WA

Reform for church charities



Photo: Jill Birt

Dushan Jeyabalan (left) talks with Pastor Andrew Duncan from East Fremantle Baptist Church about the Christian Management Australia conference he attended in Melbourne in June.

Terry Hicks, Business Manager and Dushan Jeyabalan, Financial Consultant with Baptist Churches Western Australia attended the Christian Management Australia (CMA) annual conference in Melbourne from 4 to 6 June.

Four hundred church, ministry and business leaders from across Australia attended the conference which explored courageous ministry leadership, stewardship and fundraising, marketplace ministry, charity reform and ministry governance.

Four hundred church, ministry and business leaders

from across Australia attended the Christian Management Australia (CMA) annual conference in Melbourne from 4 to 6 June. Terry Hicks, Business Manager and Dushan Jeyabalan, Financial Consultant with Baptist Churches Western Australia attended the conference which explored courageous ministry leadership, stewardship and fundraising, marketplace

ministry, charity reform and ministry governance.

The conference considered charity reform at a crucial time as the Federal Government moves to implement the new Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission.

CMA is a non-profit, non-denominational member-based organisation formed in 2002 through collaboration between Wesley Mission Sydney and Evangelical Alliance in Melbourne. CMA currently operates as a self-governing ministry of Evangelical Alliance, with its own national board.

Terry and Dushan said the

highlight of the conference were presentations by the keynote speakers including George Savvides, Chief Executive Officer of Medibank Private on the topic of Courageous Leadership in Turbulent Times, Professor Ian Harper from Deloitte Access Economics who spoke on For Such a Time as This: Leading Courageously in Challenging Economic Times and Professor Ian Williamson from Melbourne Business School on the topic of Corporate Social Impact: A Case of Stewardship.

Terry attended six electives covering legal and technical issues around not-for-profit groups.

"There are some important changes coming but we still don't have the fine details," Terry said.

"The start date for the new Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission has been delayed until 1 October 2012," Terry said. "The financial reporting required by the Commission will change some things for not-for-profit groups."

"We expect to present more information about the developments and changes relevant to our churches in the coming weeks," Terry said.

Dushan chose electives that focused on leadership in business, Christian worldview and charities.

"These sessions have given me a better understanding of servant leadership and working together as a team, as well as building stronger relationships with people I interact with," Dushan said. "They also equipped me to understand the changes that the government is bringing into the not-for-profit sector."

"I enjoyed the elective by Lindsay McMillan from Converge International called A Worldview on Work as Mission," Dushan said. "We spend at least a third of our life at work. There is clear evidence that God is at work in the world of work. There are creative and innovative approaches developing to address this marketplace mission field."

"I met with people at the conference who are experienced marketplace servant leaders," Dushan said. "They were a valuable resource to my current role in building good networks to build God's Kingdom."

CMA exists to serve Christian churches and non-profit organisations in areas of leadership and management. It is also involved in the Christian business sector, where faith and management intersect.

For more information visit www.cma.net.au.

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 or \$100 per night.

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



AGE 11
I SAY 'YES' TO JESUS FOR THE FIRST TIME...SUNDAY SCHOOL, 22 AUGUST

AGE 13
I SAY 'YES' ALL OVER AGAIN AT AN INTERS CAMP AT SERPENTINE.

AGE 15
CHALLENGED TO SERVE GOD IN MINISTRY...FOREVER DON'T KNOW HOW THAT LOOKS, BUT I'D LOVE TO KNOW!

AGE 16
THINKING...THINKING... I THINK THERE'S A BIG INTERSECTION BETWEEN WORK AND MINISTRY AND I WANT TO EXPLORE IT.

AGE 17
I ENROL AS AN INTERN AT VOSE EQUIP IN MY GAP YEAR BEFORE STARTING UNI AND BEGIN A NEW JOURNEY OF LEARNING, GROWTH, EQUIPPING AND DISCOVERING JESUS IN COMMUNITY. BRING IT ON!

AGE 19
WHAT'S NEXT, LORD?

At Vose Seminary, no two stories are the same.

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A unique opportunity now exists to take one year as an intern with Vose Equip.

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come, grow

Knitting Perth together



Photo: David Stevens

Emma dos Santos helps Sofie Stevens (9) with her knitting during the Converge event themed 'Knit Together' in Perth.

Converge 2012 brought together around 1,000 people from different Perth church cultures, denominations and ages for a week of prayer based at Wesley Church in the city.

The theme for this yearly gathering was 'Knit Together' based on Colossians 2:2 'I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love'.

"Praying together across the churches is a wonderful way to build greater unity and gain new friends," event organiser Wendy Yapp said.

The daily prayer sessions covered a great diversity in prayer and worship styles.

City workers began the day with contemplative prayer led by Greg Pfeiffer, head of the West Australian district of Lutheran churches. A giant floor map of the world was used for the PINK session (Praying and Interceding for North Korea and the persecuted church), led by Diana Thomas,

who was once held captive by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Two special services reached out to unique sections of the community. One event took time to care for carers. Another session called 'Knit in the Womb' focused on women who struggle to fall pregnant. Both services were very poignant and appreciated by those who came for special prayer.

Evenings were vibrant occasions with a packed church for the young adults evening, a Wesleyan dramatised prayer meeting and a communion service around a large cross.

Nine different worship teams came together on the Saturday, filling the city with such different styles of worship, including The Salvation Army band, Indonesian, Asian, African and indigenous teams. Many visitors were drawn to the Church to find out what was happening.

Don Dowling, Minister at Wesley Church has said that this

corner at Hay and William Streets is one of the most violent places in the city. There was no trouble at all that Saturday night.

“Praying together across the churches is a wonderful way to build greater unity and gain new friends.”

Each session started with the Lord's Prayer and most included special prayers for a drug laboratory to be discovered and closed in Perth. Four days after Converge, two commercial drug laboratories were closed down.

In keeping with the Knit Together theme, there was a knitting booth on Hay Street that stimulated much interest with passersby. Skateboarding teenagers and Goths accepted free knitting lessons. A large 'Unity Scarf' grew each day till it extended around half the church. This will be turned into blankets for the homeless.

The Egyptian elections was another focus for prayer and there was a timely visit by an Egyptian believer who walked in off the street just as prayers for the election were taking place. Other visitors came from Taiwan, Germany, China and Afghanistan.

Converge 2012 ended on Pentecost Sunday with celebrations including the Global Day of Prayer, an African Pentecost at St George's Cathedral and a gathering of churches at Victory Life Church.

Help for Thai school

The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) has sent \$24,700 in emergency financial assistance to help rebuild a school in the Mae La Refugee Camp in Thailand that was destroyed by fire on 28 April.

The Kawthoolei Karen Baptist Bible School and College, located in the Mae La Refugee Camp near the Thai-Myanmar border, may not be ready for the start of the new term in June. The school offers general education to refugees and training to church leaders. More than 300 people are enrolled.

BWA, through Baptist World Aid Australia, is providing half of the estimated reconstruction cost of \$49,400. Furnishings, equipment and school supplies will cost a further \$9,900.

Mae La is home for an estimated 50,000 displaced persons and is one of the largest of several refugee camps for displaced persons from Myanmar who fled conflicts in the South

Asian country.

The Kawthoolei Karen Baptist Bible School and College was founded by Saw Simon, the recipient of the BWA Human Rights Award in 2000. Simon and his family fled across the Thai border after the school, which was originally located in Rangoon (Yangon), the former capital of Myanmar, was destroyed. He later restarted it at the Mae La camp in 1984.

CHAPLAIN MIDDLE SENIOR SCHOOL (.4)



The Carey Church is a vibrant growing community that ministers to its neighbourhood through various agencies, one of which is Carey Baptist College.

We are seeking a 3rd chaplain to join our team, contributing to the campus Pastoral Care Network serving over 700 Middle & Senior School students. The church Youth Ministry caters for up to 300 young people weekly. Do you

- ✓ Love relating to young adults between the ages of 12-18?
- ✓ Have a holy discontent that inspires you to want to resource young people?
- ✓ Want to explore doing life together as part of the Pastoral team at the Carey Community Baptist Church?

For further information and key selection criteria please contact the church office on 9394 9155 or visit www.carey.asn.au.

Email applications to office@carey.asn.au.

Applications Close Monday 5pm 30th July 2012

Mountry ministry



Photo: Brett Peacock

Children at the weekly feeding program run by the Kro Sas Baptist Church.

Mount Hawthorn Baptist Church (Mountry) recently sent their mission coordinator Brett Peacock and his wife Leanne, and Perth business consultant Darren Chua to Cambodia to explore new ministry opportunities.

This was Darren's second visit to Cambodia after joining the Church's 2011 team. Since returning to Australia he and some of his friends have set up Ag Partners, a business venture helping people establish commercial chicken meat processing sheds to provide employment and training, making a profit to support local community development projects.

Brett and Leanne Peacock were visiting the south-east Asian nation to discern if this is where God wants them to minister in the future.

Each year Mountry Church has a Christmas Appeal to support projects it is committed to. In 2011 the Church raised more than \$91,000 with more than \$41,000 going toward two projects in Cambodia.

"We had a look at the chicken shed and a sewing project as well as discussed the possibility of other business ventures at Serve Cambodia, the Non-Government Organisation (NGO) arm of Fellowship of Hope, a local church we support," Brett said. "We're working with them to be more self supporting and start business

ventures that will support local pastors."

With Brett's ten years managing manufacturing plants in Australia and Darren's business expertise, the Mountry team made a valuable contribution by encouraging the work that is already happening.

Fellowship of Hope has planted more than 30 churches in the last seven years and through their NGO Serve Cambodia, they are involved in running three schools, a sewing project and slum relocation. The first church started as a bible study in a slum area. One of the new churches started last year following a miraculous healing. Now more than 1,000 people attend church on Sunday, when just over 12 months ago many had never heard the name of Jesus.

"We're also partnering with Kro Sas Baptist Church, a locally planted independent church in Phnom Penh which runs a feeding program for about 200 kids twice a week at a very poor community," Brett said. "Pastor Kuntty and his family run a school five days a week for nearly 200 kids out of the church premises. Often the parents go to the city of Phnom Penh in search of work,

leaving the kids at home with no food. They're located on an island affectionately called Kuntty's Island (pronounced Goonty)."

"We're working with them to be more self supporting and start business ventures that will support local pastors."

"I had the great experience of preaching in the church with all the kids gathering outside making a huge noise while I tried to finish my sermon," Brett said.

The team also visited three projects where people living in Phnom Penh slum communities are being relocated outside the city.

Holiday club fun

A group of eight young adults from Claremont Baptist Church are heading to Fitzroy Crossing during the July school holidays to run a holiday club for the local Aboriginal primary age children.

"We'll be working with two churches that are in town," Claremont Baptist Church Pastor Cale Van Asselt said. "We're hoping to be able to encourage the local Christians while we're in Fitzroy too."

"Fletcher and Anne Creelman from Claremont Baptist Church taught at the primary school in Fitzroy for two years before returning to Perth at the beginning of this year," Cale said. "They're coordinating our time up there from 7 to 13 July."

to fund the journey. The last one was a lunch following the morning service at Claremont Baptist Church on 10 June.

"The community of Claremont Baptist Church have been very generous in supporting the trip financially," Cale said.

During June the team plans to meet several times to fine tune the program and prepare the activities they'll run with the children of Fitzroy.

"This is a time for us to follow Jesus in sacrificial service of others," Cale said.

"We're hoping to be able to encourage the local Christians while we're in Fitzroy too."

"One of the challenging things about going to serve up north of Western Australia is the cost. It's been a real challenge to fund this team. It's actually cheaper to fly a team to south-east Asia than to fly to Fitzroy Crossing. Then there's hiring transport when we get there."

The group has run a number of fundraising events

"It's also a unique opportunity to engage with and think through some of the social and poverty related issues we have here in Australia, and respond to them."

Missionaries die in Zambia

American missionaries Jay and Katrina Erickson, from Spokane, USA, were killed on 2 June when the six-seat Cessna aircraft Jay was piloting crashed into the Zambezi River, in Zambia. Their daughters, Marina (2) and Coral (1), had stayed behind at the Chitokoloki Mission Hospital where the couple worked.

The couple, both in their late 20s, met at Moody Bible Institute in Spokane and were married in 2008. They traveled to Zambia in late February to begin a year-long mission to transport food, medical supplies, doctors and missionaries between the 150 bed mission hospital and other remote outposts.

Jay trained as an airplane mechanic and bush pilot at Moody Aviation, a branch of Moody Bible Institute.

The hospital said he had flown three passengers earlier in

the day and that Katrina joined her husband for another trip to transport a nurse. On their return the plane hit an electrical pylon and went into the river near the town of Zambezi. It was her first time flying with Jay since they arrived in Zambia.

The plane was submerged in the swift water and rescuers could not reach it immediately. The bodies were recovered Sunday with the help of Zambia Air Force divers.

The couple were buried at Chitokoloki on 5 June. Their children will return to the United States with their grandparents.

Letting God open the door



Photo: Crossroad Distributors

Christian singer-songwriter Jeremy Camp.

USA Christian singer-songwriter Jeremy Camp has enjoyed a successful music career, however he shares with journalist Kerryn Bricknell how the journey of personal loss has impacted his growth as a musician and song writer.

Can you share with me how you have lasted so long in the Christian music industry? And how you have grown as an artist over that time?

Honestly — and this is not meant to sound cliché — I believe this from the heart — I have really desired in all of this to seek the Lord in everything that I'm doing. Also, I have great people around me that keep me accountable. My wife is amazing. She loves Jesus so much. I've always said that I will continue to do this if God continues to open the door. For me, I keep pressing into Him and if He ever says stop then I'll stop. He hasn't said stop yet. That is why I am continuing because I feel like He is continuing to call me and I'm growing. In these past couple of years, I feel like

I have had a growth spurt in my walk with the Lord. Even musically and vocally from my first album to my new one I go 'oh my goodness, I sound completely different'. I want to grow through the gifts that God has given me and to draw closer to Him. That is how it has stayed fresh for me.

Take me back to the start of your career — how did you step into the Christian music industry?

What's interesting for me is the fact that it was literally something that I didn't even walk into, it literally came to me. I went to Bible College when I was 18 and I studied God's Word for two years. I did some worship and music there. It was more to help out the school and I loved worship. I did that for two years and then afterwards I just stayed in California and played

in different places. God kept opening doors. It was literally like 'we've heard a lot about you. Can you come and play at our church?' Pretty soon I did that full-time. I got an email from a record company about two years in which said 'hey we have been hearing a lot about you. Can you send us a demo?' They called back and said 'can you fly out and meet with us in Seattle?' I said, 'sure why not'. That wasn't the same company that I ended up signing with but I wanted to serve the Lord whatever that looked like. He opened the door. The best way is to let God do it. Let God open the door. When we force the door open the foundation is not settled correctly. I think when you let Him do it, the foundation is so much stronger. That is why I think I've lasted so long in this. I let Him build the foundation.

You have experienced some real difficult times with the passing away of your first wife and then in 2009 the loss of your child. Tell me how that has shaped you and impacted your song writing and performing?

Definitely a deepening happens. When you go through trials you go deeper because you have nothing to cling onto except the Lord. When I lost my wife to cancer I was like here are two options. I can turn my back on God and run to the world which is the cause of the problem in the first place. I said 'you know what — the only place I can run where there is any value is my Saviour, my refuge and my strong tower'. He is my everything. I said 'I am just going to trust you Lord'. I had to just run to Him literally and have Him cover me and be my shelter. From that I learnt so much about the Lord; so much about His love, His faithfulness in my life. It shaped so much of who I am and so much of my song writing; that intimacy that I experienced during that time because I just clung to Him. When I went through the miscarriage, I was like 'okay Lord I know what to do'. It's not easy but I knew where to run. 'I found refuge in you before'. I realised that I don't want to leave that place even in the high times. I still want to cling to Him every single day because I need and desire to. I love Him and I want to spend time with Him. I'm learning that you don't just cling to Him in the hard times. You cling to Him always because we need to constantly be on our knees before Him growing and learning.

Who has influenced your career musically and even spiritually?

My father is a big influence in my life spiritually. He's been a mentor, an example of God's love. Even growing up my family has been such a good example to me. I think musically there is so many and I'm not trying to sound cliché — but I love Delirious (British Christian rock band) and I love that intimacy you can hear in their lyrics and music. There is a kind of real

raw stuff going on. I love that. I think that has been an influence on me. Also the honesty factor of Steven Curtis Chapman and how he writes about how he feels. I love that because that is kind of me as well.

What is the process you undergo for song writing for the release of an album?

I get my guitar out and I just mess around. What will happen is something will come over me where God has taught me something through what I read that day, what he has been teaching me in a season of life or what I have seen. I will start writing and that will form a song. Those are the best songs for sure. When I say 'hey I am going to sit down and write a song' it just doesn't happen.

What project are you working on at the moment and when will we expect to see a new release come out?

We are doing a couple of projects, which is crazy. I have recorded a Christmas record in May. I have also been writing for my next record. I have the majority of the songs written which is unusual for me because I usually don't write that soon. That will probably come out next February or March. I have been so inspired lately and I have had this growth spurt so songs keeping coming out. It's going to be probably one of the deepest records I've written.

So is it a mixture of ballad, worship and rock songs?

It is. It's all that. It's probably the best mixture of any of the records I've recorded. The reason why I can do the rock or worship or ballad kind of introspective song is that it is really what's on my heart. I think that's why it works. I'm not forcing it to happen. It's my true heart.

We Cry Out Competition

The Advocate, in conjunction with Crossroad Distributors is giving you an opportunity to win a copy of *We Cry Out*. To be in the draw, simply answer the following question:

Question:
What is the name of the British Christian rock band that Jeremy Camp finds influence in?

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

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

We Cry Out Competition
11 East Parade East Perth WA 6004

Entries close 20 July and all winners will be announced in the August edition of *The Advocate*.

Leading in a complex world



By John Maxwell

With an average of 2,500 arrivals or departures daily, Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport boasts the busiest terminal complex in the world. A quarter-million passengers pass through it each day.

As one would imagine, the logistics of coordinating such a high volume of traffic are incredibly complicated. A sophisticated air traffic control system is responsible for ensuring that all incoming flights arrive safely and that all outgoing planes smoothly take-off. The system has to be versatile enough to respond to severe weather, airplane mechanical problems, and runway repairs. To avoid delays

and service interruptions, air traffic controllers constantly must re-route planes, adjust schedules and initiate communication of updated flight plans.

The intricacies of the interconnected air traffic control system appear dizzyingly complex to someone unfamiliar with its operation. However, every day of the year the system enables the safe transport of hundreds of thousands of people in and out of Atlanta. Studying how the air

traffic control system functions undoubtedly would yield scores of leadership insights for dealing with complexity. However, I'd like to highlight three specific lessons.

1) Build a team with diverse perspectives

Obviously, the workings of an air traffic control system exceed the cognitive capacity of any single individual. At the control tower, one person keeps an eye on the weather and also reviews and approves

proposed flight plans. Another controller manages the flow of traffic on the ground, guiding planes as they taxi between the gates and runways. Yet another controller monitors radar to track all aircraft within a ten kilometre radius of the airport. The controller makes sure planes stay a safe distance apart from one another and gives final clearance for take-offs and landings.

As leaders, we tend to attract people like ourselves. This tendency is healthy in that we draw people to our organisations who share our values but unhealthy in that we surround ourselves with like-minded thinkers. As a leader, your ability to be influential in complex environments is tied to the diversity of thought represented on your team. Not only do you need people with specialised knowledge in finance, marketing, sales, etc but also people who differ in how they think. You also need people who push the envelope of creativity, others who thrive on efficiency and still others concerned with preserving your company's unique identity. Ultimately, you want a team of individuals who are naturally wired to pay attention to different segments of the information streaming into your organisation.

2) Develop decision-making guidelines

To facilitate the uninterrupted inflow and outflow of traffic, air traffic controllers must be able to make split-second decisions. Delays in the decision-making process not only gum up the efficient flow of traffic, but also put lives in jeopardy. Accordingly, air traffic controllers are trained and equipped to take

immediate action on incoming information.

Leaders who are unable or unwilling to delegate drown themselves in work. To cut down on complexity, decentralise decision-making by entrusting those on the front lines with the requisite authority to make things happen. Provide a set of guidelines, consistent with your values, as a shorthand way to instruct employees on determining the best course of action.

3) Pay the price of continuous upgrades

As air traffic has increased over the years, Atlanta's airport has invested in upgrades such as building new runways and taxiways and constructing an improved control tower. Presently, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport is undertaking a program to shift its air traffic control from ground-based radar to satellite-based GPS tracking. The new technologies will locate planes faster and with greater precision, enabling aircraft travelling to or from Atlanta to fly closer together. As a result, congestion at the airport will be reduced and fuel costs minimised.

As technology progresses, new opportunities emerge and old systems become obsolete. In other words, willingness to change becomes more and more imperative. Since costly, energy-consuming changes do not happen by themselves, you, as the leader, are responsible to identify outdated ways of doing business and to replace them with upgraded systems.

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The change equation: D + V + P = Change

By Glenn Bergsma

It was Isaac Asimov, an American Author and Professor of Biochemistry at Boston University, who penned the following quote, 'The only constant is change, continuing change, inevitable change, that is the dominant factor in society today. No sensible decision can be made any longer without taking into account not only the world as it is, but the world as it will be.'

I like the Professor's thinking and the question we need to ask ourselves is 'will that change be by design or default?' That's where leadership comes in ... and you!

I remember walking into a church with a huge banner against the back wall saying 2,000 by 2000, which after discussion with the leadership meant having 2,000 people in attendance at the church by the

year 2000. I marvelled at their courageous dream, but was unsure and perplexed as to how they intended to achieve their vision. Unfortunately in late 1999, the minister had to humbly pull down the banner with the dream unrealised. Why didn't the change occur?

As I work throughout different organisations there is something that all of them are faced with ... how do we carry out effective change management? How do we change our current situation? How do we get out of the hole we are in? How do we make the most of the opportunities that lie ahead? That's where the following equation comes in: D + V + P = Change.

'D' stands for drive – the drive to change the current situation (why do we need to change?) 'V' stands for vision – the vision for the future (what will the future look like?) 'P' stands for process – the process to achieve the vision (how will we get there?) Drive plus vision plus process equals effective change.

It's only when we address each part of the equation that we can ensure that change will occur. It will be difficult if there is no desire or motivation to change, if there is no picture of a better future and no clear pathway for the vision to be unrolled. Every other aspect of effective change management

will fit within this equation.

So the next time you feel like there is something more, that things need to change or change is on the horizon, run the formula (preferably with others) to see if you're ready to make your move.

Glenn Bergsma is the Principal Consultant at Evolve Leadership offering Organisational Change and Development services to the corporate and not-for-profit sectors in WA.

events calendar

July		25 July	September
9-13 July	Juniors Camp, BCWA, www.baptistwa.asn.au	An Evening with Gina Williams, Parkerville Baptist Church, www.parkerville.net.au	4-8 September Asia Pacific Baptist Congress, Malaysia, www.apbf.info/Congress2012
14-19 July	Inters Camp, BCWA, www.baptistwa.asn.au	August	9 September Be Love Sunday, Baptist World Aid Australia, www.baptistworldaid.org.au
21 July	Performing Arts Workshop, The Ministry Centre, www.inglewoodchurch.org.au	14 August South Perth Baptist Church dinner and birthday party, Bocilli Restaurant, 9368 1479	29 Sep-1 Oct Sportsfest, BCWA, www.sportsfest.org.au

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Collection can be arranged. Donation details on our website:

www.streetchaplain.com

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Do you have news that you would like to share with the rest of the West Australian church family?

Email your name, phone number and brief description to editor@theadvocate.tv by the 5th of each month.

We would like to know about:

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- Birth
- Deaths
- Events
- Marriages
- News about your church
- Pastoral changes

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the advocate

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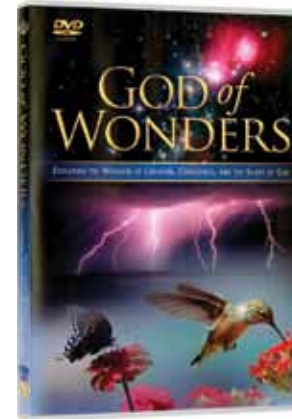
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watch



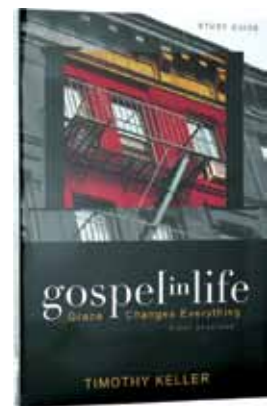
The Woodcarver (WWJDII)

Matthew is a troubled kid from a broken home. After vandalising the local church, Matthew is forced to repair the damage to avoid criminal charges. While working at the church, he meets Ernest, an accomplished wood carver who created the intricate woodwork decoration that Matthew's actions destroyed. Ernest, now a hermit, reluctantly comes out of seclusion to help repair the church. Both Ernest and Matthew must work together to preserve the church's beautiful antiquity, and along the way, they also manage to restore their faith in God and in life.



God of Wonders

Take a journey of discovery. Explore the Creator's handiwork and what His creation reveals about His character. Survey the vastness of the universe. Ponder the enormous energy present in all matter. Examine the elegant water molecule essential to all life and see how God creates these molecules to form beautiful and symmetrical snow crystals. Discover the complexity of DNA, the miraculous workings of the tiny seed, the design functionality of birds to the amazing transformation of butterflies, these and many other features of creation are highlighted in this visually stunning presentation.



Gospel in Life

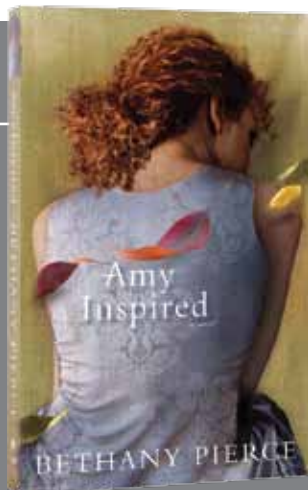
In the *Gospel in Life*, join Author and Pastor Timothy Keller in this life-changing eight-week video-based study of the gospel and the ways to live it out in your everyday life. From exploring the world you are living in now to preparing for the world that is to come, you will learn how the gospel can change you – first in your heart, then in your community and then out into the world. This DVD is designed to be used in conjunction with the *Gospel in Life Participant's Guide*.

win

Amy Inspired

By Bethany Pierce

Amy knows something has to change. Amy Gallagher, an aspiring writer has a uniquely unabashed obsession with words. However, with two years past and one masters degree later, Amy disappointedly finds herself right back where she started. With publisher rejections piling and despondency only growing, Amy decides it is time for things to change. Amy doubts that love and fulfilment will ever come her way and yet she knows deep within her that she must make a choice between fulfilling her dreams and forever playing it safe. This fiction novel is a beautifully written tale of faith and love.



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

Question:
What is the last name of the author of *Amy Inspired*?

Entries close 20 July and all winners will be announced in the August edition of *The Advocate*.

Winners from *Flourish*:
J Hunt, P Hollett, H Payne

competition

Answer: _____

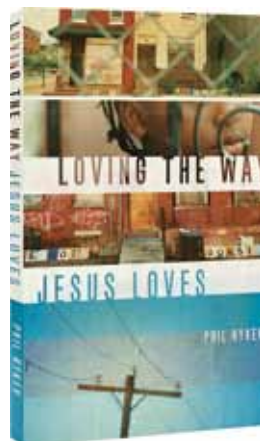
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Phone number: _____

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

Amy Inspired Competition
11 East Parade East Perth WA 6004

read



Loving the Way Jesus Loves

By Phil Ryken

Drawing on the life and ministry of Jesus, Phil Ryken has something fresh to say on the topic of love. 'Anyone who has read and studied 1 Corinthians 13 should have some idea of what it would look like to live in the headlong pursuit of love ... It means that even in the most desperate circumstances, we are able to keep believing, keep hoping, and keep loving.'



Miracle for Jen

By Linda Barrick

After being struck by a drunk driver, Fifteen year old Jen suffered multiple skull fractures and severe brain trauma and was not expected to survive. But against all odds she did and after five weeks she opened her eyes and began praying and praising God. As any loving mother would, Jen's mother, Linda wanted God to heal Jen – make her like she was before. Normal. But a loving God had something else in mind – instead of making her normal, God is making Jennifer – and the whole Barrick family – extraordinary, miraculous.



Overcoming

By Steve Mays

Circumstances and bad situations do happen to good people. At times it is the choices that we have made, but other times it is a consequence of someone else's bad behavior. Despite these situations, the Lord is calling us to move beyond this adversity into a life of victory that brings glory and honour to His name. *Overcoming* is the opportunity for a character shift and wholehearted pursuit into the quest for more of God.

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



Big family of runners

On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings, and Wednesday evenings around Perth, you'll find members of the BT RunClub running distances from four to thirty-two kilometres. Some run for fitness, some for a personal challenge and others train for future marathons.

Simon and Fiona Elliott pastor The Big Table, a house church in South Perth. They are passionate about connecting Jesus with life; Simon is also passionate about running.

On a road trip across the USA with his best mate Brad, following competition in the 2010 Boston Marathon, Simon began talking about ways to create places connected to The Big Table where they could love and encourage a bunch of people that they perhaps wouldn't normally get to hang around.

"I've been a runner for around 30 years and almost mindlessly said, 'we should start a run club'," Simon said. "It's not so much an 'add on' to The Big Table. It's more a 'flow out' of [The Big Table]. It's organic, connecting life and passion and Jesus all together."

The BT RunClub is a community for runners of all abilities whether they are running for the first time or at an elite level.

"There's been a beauty in that diversity because we've grown a culture where some pursue excellence while others work towards less dizzy goals," Simon said.

"90 percent is turning up! I think the big misconception



Photo: Matt Calligan

Members of the BT RunClub — a community for runners of all abilities.

is that you have to be fit to join a running club. You grow endurance by joining one!"

BT RunClub is a mix of men and women from 18 to 65 years of age. Between 80 and 100 sessions are logged by BT RunClub members each week.

"We currently have four organised sessions each week: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:15am, Wednesdays at 6pm and Saturdays at 7:30am. Aside from Wednesday nights, our sessions start from the Collins Street Community Centre on

Collins Street, South Perth — this makes it easy for people to come together at our place for breakfast and coffee after some of the sessions!"

Runners thrive on a mix of endurance, speed, strength and recovery. Tuesday is long intervals, Thursday short intervals and Saturday is about endurance. Wednesday is for womens-only cardio work-out.

On Wednesday nights the Band of Sisters meets — a group for women moving from the couch to running over five

kilometres. Simon coaches this group each week.

Simone Field recalls, "I said to Simon one day at The Big Table 'I can't run. I failed high school Phys Ed!' He said, 'I bet you can!' And I can!"

"It's so great," Claire Smythe said, cheeks still crimson from the morning air. "It's supportive and encouraging. There's no ridicule. I never dreamed I could run like this. I love it!"

Callum Stott found the BT RunClub on the internet when he arrived in town from New South

Wales six months ago.

"It's amazing! I've never been part of anything like this before," Callum said. "It's like being part of a big family. I'm part of The Big Table now too. We get to do life together and share that with others around us."

Sam Icton also found the club online. "I Googled and found the club," she said. "I'm really, really happy here. They're all so supportive."

"We'll all be watching Sam's progress online as she runs the Brisbane Marathon," Simon said.

AGE 14
I HAVE A STRONG DESIRE TO INVESTIGATE THE CLAIMS OF JESUS

AGE 16
I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS.

AGE 18
I'M AT UNIVERSITY READING PHILOSOPHY AND ANTHROPOLOGY. IT'S NEAR MY SWEET SPOT.

AGE 22
THERE'S MORE TO KNOW, THERE'S DEEP TRUTHS I WANT TO EXPLORE.
I WANT TO DIG DEEP AND KEEP DIGGING. I WANT TO EXPLORE THE UNFATHOMABLE.

AGE 23
I LOVE THEOLOGY. THERE, I SAID IT!

AGE 24
I ENROL AT VOSE SEMINARY AND BEGIN A
NEW JOURNEY OF LEARNING, GROWTH, EQUIPPING AND
DISCOVERING JESUS IN COMMUNITY. PRETTY EXCITED...

AGE 34
THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...WHAT'S NEXT, LORD?

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