

the advocate

"Generosity: It doesn't cost a penny to pay it forward." **JOHN MAXWELL** [PAGE 13>>](#)

In Conversation Australian Baptist Ministries consultant Scott Higgins speaks about a new venture he is involved in, 'A Just Cause'. [PAGE 12>>](#)



Photo: Jill Birt

BCWA Director of Ministries Mark Wilson welcoming Pastors Craig Sullivan, Phil Smoker and David Adams at their accreditation ceremony.

Calling confirmed

Three pastors have been accredited by Baptist Churches Western Australia in a ceremony that formed the highlight of the Annual Assembly of Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) in October.

Pastors David Adams, Phil Smoker and Craig Sullivan were the three to receive their accreditation and each had a different testimony to share.

The three men spoke about their life journey and how God has called and directed them to the point of seeking accreditation as a pastor with Baptist Churches Western Australia.

David Adams described how his personal crisis of faith and the death of his first wife from cancer almost two decades ago was used by God to shape his life and ministry. David said the faithful prayers of his wife Carol have

been instrumental in his journey. David is the pastor at Pingelly Baptist Church.

Phil Smoker's journey has taken longer than some pastors who seek to be accredited by BCWA. He worked in his own building business for several years before he had a career change to be a youth pastor. He then became a full-time school chaplain before completing the required studies and the accreditation process to be a pastor. Phil and his wife Jackie pastor Como Baptist Church together.

Craig Sullivan told the Assembly how his current work

with sheep on his wife Nerida's family farm, has confirmed his call to pastoral ministry.

"I've seen that I love Jesus and his sheep more than the sheep on the farm," Craig said.

Until recently Craig Sullivan was Associate Pastor for Youth at Albany Baptist Church.

Accreditation Team Member Pastor Phil Bryant outlined the process the Accreditation Candidates had completed, including formal study, ministry experience, recommendation by the Accreditation Team, and approval by the Baptist Churches Western Australia Council.

BCWA Director of Ministries Mark Wilson also welcomed Pastor Michael Bullard and Pastor Rob Furlong who transferred their accreditation from Churches of Christ in Western Australia Inc.

Pastoral Consultant with BCWA, Pastor Rob Furlong, was

guest speaker at the Assembly. Rob spoke of the importance of healthy churches and his role at BCWA to support and encourage pastors to be emotionally and spiritually healthy.

"The pathway to grace, mercy and peace has been a painful one for me," Rob said.

"Our weakness is our best asset because it keeps us dependent on Him. Doctrine is important, but if it doesn't lead to love there is something wrong."

The accreditation was witnessed by more than 100 delegates, friends and family of the candidates at Riverton Baptist Community Church.

The meeting heard news of ministries of BCWA and voted on issues pertaining to the entire denomination. These included voting for members of the BCWA Council and the Appeals Panel.



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Young Western Australians meet with politicians over extreme poverty >>



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“ Building healthy churches. ”

BAPTIST CHURCHES WESTERN AUSTRALIA





Philip Bryant

Philip Bryant is a Church Health Consultant with Baptist Churches Western Australia.

Surprising grace

What an exciting day 30 August was for our family! Our daughter-in-law and son welcomed a baby into the family after 11 years of marriage and being told six years ago that they could not have children. And now this little boy has woven his way into our hearts.

His life is sleeping, feeding, dirtying nappies and a lot of crying. His problem is colic. He has his parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins all watching over him with rapturous attention, trying to help him. His mum and dad walk around in a perpetual daze with bags under their eyes due to lack of sleep.

And yet, you could not find a happier couple. His mother radiates with fulfilment and his dad is an emotional wreck, but

absolutely contented. You can probably tell a similar story and this is my story, three times over.

So I ask, "Why?"

Why do we love our babies, when they cause us so much disruption and don't contribute anything tangible to us or our world? If the truth be told they actually cost us time, energy, emotions and money. Yet we still love them.

I think it's because of 'grace'. Grace is giving something to

someone who does not deserve it. Grace cannot be earned in any way. Grace is not dependant on how good we are, or what we contribute to another.

So often I fall into the trap of measuring a person's worth by what they contribute to me or society. But grace simply loves the person for who they are – our children, our grandchildren, our friends, and workmates. All those whom God places in our lives.

This is just what God does with each of us. God says to us, "It doesn't matter what you do or don't do: I love you."

It is my prayer that I will offer this same grace that God gives me as I move among those whom God has placed in my life to share and live His gospel with. I invite you to join me in offering grace.

“ Grace cannot be earned in any way. ”



Dr Brian Harris

Dr Brian Harris is the Principal of Vose Seminary and pastor at large for the Carey Movement.

On God writing straight ...

An old proverb of uncertain origin proclaims, 'God writes straight with crooked lines.' Now I could terminate this column by simply citing this insightful claim, but suspect that our esteemed editor would remind me that I'm supposed to contribute a column of 350 words, and that these six words fall a fair way short of that – thought provoking though they are.

So what to say about it? I think it's something you appreciate and believe a little more as the years go by. After all when you are younger any serious setback seems ... well serious. For something to go amiss or a prayer to appear to be unanswered can be unsettling stuff – especially if it concerned something of greater importance than a desired parking spot.

Those of you in the know will probably be asking, "is he going to quote Kierkegaard now?" Well, why not? Our argument would be incomplete without it, as Kierkegaard said, 'Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.' And it is the backward look, sometimes taken long after the event has passed, which helps to make sense of what at the time seemed

senseless. In those agonising times we have little choice but to keep moving on, one step at a time. Those steps can be transforming.

What I am learning is that it's just as well to defer judgment about the value of many of life's experiences. Of course a lot also depends upon what story we are trying to write. If our push is for a novel where every day is

happy and bright, setbacks are genuinely setbacks – unwelcome intrusions in our quest for endless bliss. But if we long for lives of depth and significance, a bumpy road is often a valuable ally.

So when next time something goes awry, and a friend sympathises in distress with an, "I really don't know what to say ..." perhaps reply, "You could try, 'God writes straight with crooked lines.'" And who knows, you just might be right ... and if not, hold on to the first word ... God.



Rhidian Brook

Author of *The Aftermath*, Rhidian Brook is an award winning novelist, screenwriter and broadcaster.

Forgiveness always costs something

Whilst we remember a World War, it is interesting to see how our former enemies are remembering it. I recently listened to Prince Philip Kiril – the great, great grandson of the Kaiser – speaking about reconciliation between England and Germany. At the end of his speech he apologised for what his country had done in both World Wars. Seventy years later Germans are still asking for forgiveness.

In 1945, when forgiving Germans was anathema, my grandfather was responsible for the reconstruction of a district outside Hamburg, including the feeding, rehousing and 'de-Nazification' of thousands of displaced people.

A shortage of housing led the British to requisition what buildings remained standing to accommodate their own families. Germans were put in billets.

When my grandfather went to requisition a house, he did something radical: rather than have the family ejected he let them stay. Just one year on from the war, a British and German family lived under the same roof and did so for the next five years.

My grandfather's decision was counter to the mood of the times. Germans were seen as guilty and deserving of

punishment, compounded by the discovery of concentration camps. My grandfather was perceived as soft pedalling.

Forgiveness always costs something. It might mean accepting a personal loss, or dropping our right to be paid back. It can also open us up to the anger of those who demand their pound of flesh. But, as the gospels demonstrate, reconciliation is

a much riskier business than retribution. Revenge brings instant results and momentary gratification; forgiveness requires faith in an outcome we can't always see. It is right to remember those lost to war, but let's not forget those who've helped build a lasting peace.

Two years ago, I went back to Germany with my father to meet the German brother and sister he'd shared a home with. Their fondness towards him was obvious. Later they told us how grateful they had been to stay in the house. They even had a nickname for my grandfather: 'Dei Brucke.' In German, the surname Brook means bridge.

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.

Concern over refugees

The plight of refugees and asylum seekers is a topic that is often in the media, but commonly misunderstood, according to Australian Baptist Ministries' Scott Higgins.

Sixty people from churches across Western Australia recently met at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church for a workshop on the topic, which gave them an opportunity to highlight their concerns about Australia's response to refugees and asylum seekers.

The workshop titled 'Boundless Plains to Share?' was presented by Higgins, Director of A Just Cause, a new initiative of Australian Baptist Ministries.

People from Baptist, The Salvation Army, Churches of Christ and Presbyterian churches from Geraldton to Rockingham attended the event.

The workshop participants reported confusion over the current situation in Australia. Some people said they had issues with the limited reporting regarding refugees and asylum seekers in Australia's media. Others voiced concern about how refugees were being treated in offshore detention centres.

Many were unclear what Australia had agreed to when the nation signed the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, the key legal document defining who is a refugee, their rights and the legal obligations of states.

Scott Higgins clearly presented facts, myths and misconceptions about the global refugee crisis, and highlighted that according to the Convention it is lawful for a person to seek refuge. He also outlined Australia's response to refugees and asylum seekers. Australia was the sixth signatory

to the United Nations' 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees.

In 2013 the UNHCR confirmed there were 16 million refugees in the world and one million asylum seekers. A refugee is described by the UNHCR as someone who is fleeing persecution and an asylum seeker as someone whose claim for refuge is currently being tested.

Currently 12 nations of the world are responsible for 14 million refugees. Nine out of ten refugees are living in developing countries. The Kingdom of Jordan currently hosts more than three million refugees,

more than the total population of the country.

Participants also developed a list of Biblical values for followers of Jesus to consider when thinking through a response to refugees and asylum seekers.

"We need to move the debate in Australia from protecting Australia to loving sacrificially, how you can pour out your life for others. There's a strong push for our nation to be self-protective," Scott said.

A new resource that explores a Biblical response to refugees and asylum seekers is now available through the A Just Cause website. *Boundless Plains to Share? Australia, Jesus and Refugees* was written by Scott Higgins and includes a series of Bible studies suitable for individuals and groups. To obtain the book and for more information, visit www.ajustcause.com.au.



Scott Higgins speaking about refugees and asylum seekers at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

Photo: Jill Birt

Celebrating 120 years of ministry

Baptist Theological College of Western Australia graduates David Dean, Rob Douglas, David O'Brien and Mike Louwen celebrated the 30th anniversary of their ordination into Christian ministry in October.

Over the past 30 years all four have been involved in continued service within Baptist churches or denominational ministry.

David Dean and his wife Shirley are now retired after

working with Global Interaction in China and are currently worshipping at Lake Joondalup Baptist Church. Rob Douglas is Senior Pastor at the Maida Vale Baptist Church, where his wife Robyn is the Family and Children's Worker.

David O'Brien and his wife Debbie live in Victoria where David spent 14 years as the State Missions Director of the Baptist Union of Victoria. He is currently the Senior Pastor of Waverley Baptist Church.

Mike Louwen and his wife Kaye are living in Mount Barker, where Mike is using his musical gifts as Mount Barker Baptist Church Music Director.



David Dean, Mike Louwen, David O'Brien and Rob Douglas caught up in Perth recently to celebrate their ordination in 1984.

Photo: Dion Douglas





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Back to school



Photo: Jill Birt

Coordinator Chris Ellery (standing) with the team of mentors from North Beach Baptist Church who visit North Beach Primary School each week.

A team of ten mentors from North Beach Baptist Church are participating in a life changing program for local primary school students.

Each week the Kids Hope team from North Beach attend the neighbouring North Beach Primary School to deliver the unique mentoring program.

Earlier this year the church approached Kids Hope Aus, a World Vision affiliated program that sends mentors into local primary schools to support primary aged children.

The program's tag line, 'One Child, One Hour, One Church, One School', connects mentors from a local church with a local school community.

Program coordinator Chris Ellery met with North Beach Principal Steve Pash during term one to explain how the program works. It connects a mentor from the church with a child chosen by the school for

a regular one hour visit during class time each week.

With confirmed interest from the school, Chris sought volunteers who could commit to the weekly mentoring session for two years. Within a short time North Beach's initial ten mentors commenced their screening and training process.

"We're very excited because the school wants us there," Chris said.

As well as mentoring the children, the program provides churches with an opportunity to impact and serve their local community through the partnership with the local primary school. After comprehensive training and security checks the church deploys the passionate, trained mentors into the school to provide one-to-one mentoring to children in need for one hour each week.

Teachers put forward students' names, parents approve their child's participation, then mentors and children are matched.

Mentors visit the children at set times during the week to fit in with the class teacher's program and the mentor's availability.

It is still early in the mentoring relationship but already mentors are encouraged by how the children are responding to their undivided attention.

The North Beach Baptist Church mentors are aged between late 20s and early 70s with life experience and professional training ranging from midwife to engineer. The team members are all passionate about serving Jesus and their local community. During the recent school holidays they met to learn, report and pray together as they prepared for the new school term.

Each mentor also has a partner in the church who supports them in prayer.

Kids Hope Aus CEO and Founder Marilyn Leermakers reports there are 15 mentoring groups in Western Australia.

"The growth of the program in WA is good and we're hoping the North Beach program will generate interest in surrounding schools and churches," Marilyn said.

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

Poverty challenge



Photo: Oaktree

Young Western Australian's participating in the End Poverty Campaign.

The suffering of 1.2 billion people around the world who live in extreme poverty has been put under the microscope in Canberra.

Sixty young people from Western Australia travelled to the nation's capital in early October to meet with politicians about the plight of those living in extreme poverty, as part of the End Poverty Campaign coordinated by Oaktree, Australia's only youth-run movement to end poverty.

The West Australians joined with 340 other young people from around the country on 2 October to meet in small groups with 103 Federal Members of Parliament to discuss the vital policy changes that the End Poverty Campaign is advocating for.

Whilst the group was in Canberra, speculation surfaced that there would be further cuts to Australia's aid budget, a claim dismissed by Foreign Minister Julie Bishop.

Oaktree called a media conference with Greens Leader Senator Christine Milne, Parliamentary Secretary Senator Matt Thistlethwaite and Director of Policy and Public Affairs for Save the Children Matt Tinkler. At the media conference, more than 400 young Australians converged on the lawns of Parliament House bringing with them 6,000 signatures to the End Poverty petition that had been collected in the previous three days from across the nation.

"Whilst we welcome the comments of Julie Bishop in a commitment to Australia's aid program, today we call on the Abbott/Hockey government to unequivocally confirm that there will be no changes to Australia's foreign aid spending," Oaktree's Head of Campaigns Fiona Canny said at the media conference.

In the days immediately before the trip, the group visited Mandurah, Fremantle and the city of Perth, including a multi-faith meeting at St George's Cathedral, raising awareness and building public support for action on poverty.

digital church

14/09/2014
Phil Cooke
philcooke.com

"Today we live in the most distracted culture in the history of the world. There's more competition for people's time and attention than ever. Which means that if you have an important message, your first priority is to get that message heard."

22/09/2014
Craig Groeschel
twitter.com/craiggroeschel

"We may impress people with our strengths but we connect with people through our weaknesses."

30/09/2014
David Santistevan
davidstevan.com

"No facet of our lives is exempt from the glory of God. We don't keep any for our self. We don't hide anything behind closed doors. There are no secrets, no facade, no silence when it comes to God and His glory."

05/10/2014
Josh Larsen
thinkchristian.reframemedia.com

"If Christian cultural engagement is indeed a trendy thing, then I'm all for it. I only hope that, unlike most trends, it doesn't fade away."

05/10/2014
Nils Smith
twitter.com/NilsSmith

"The truth of the gospel doesn't mean we are always happy, but it does mean we always have hope."

07/10/2014
Shane Claiborne
twitter.com/ShaneClaiborne

"As Christians, our politics are not Left or Right, but centred on Jesus. Our allegiance is not to a donkey or an elephant – but to a Lamb."

08/10/2014
Bethany Jenkins
thegospelcoalition.org

"Even at four years old, they have nascent desires that testify to their bearing God's image as a worker who cultivates and serves."

09/10/2014
Rick Warren
twitter.com/RickWarren

"I'd rather see a church that's starting ten churches than a church of a 1,000."

11/10/2014
Mark Beeson
markbeeson.com

"The person who says with

certainty that they'll do this or that 'later', is counting on having the opportunity 'then', that's staring them in the face 'now'. It makes good sense to plan for tomorrow today, but there's a problem with thinking we can always do later the good we can do now."

13/10/2014
Eugene Cho
twitter.com/EugeneCho

"When we say, 'God's on the move!', I think what we really mean is, 'God's always been on the move and I want to be a part of what God's doing.'"

New centre serves Como

Como Baptist Church ministry, the Canning Bridge Early Learning Centre is a step closer to opening after recently receiving a \$127, 243 grant from Lotterywest for furniture, computer and indoor/outdoor equipment.

The centre's service approval inspection is planned for late November. Once approval has been granted by the Department of Local Government and Communities, the centre will cater for 49 children aged from six weeks to four years.

Centre Manager Kim Moore has been busy working at the facility since early this year, and her co-directors Sarah Vardy (Assistant Manager) and Sheryl Edwards (Educational Leader) joined her a couple of months ago.

As Centre Manager, Kim ensured that the equipment selected allowed for children with special needs. Equipment will complement technology such as interactive whiteboards with natural play elements like herb gardens.

The new centre is a ministry of Como Baptist Church's community services arm The Bridge Organisation Inc.

Since 1923 when South Como Sunday School commenced at the Como Baptist Church site, the church has been serving families in the area. The initial Sunday School started because of the desperate need of the families and children living in tents along what is now the Kwinana Freeway during the Depression era.

"Meeting the needs of families is part of the DNA of Como," Como Baptist Church Pastor Jackie Smoker said.

"Looking back at our history helped us to look forward to see the opportunities God had placed many years ago."

"God's timing has been surprising during the centres development," she said.

The whole process from proposing the centre to opening will have taken close to five years. The curve balls of life experienced by those directly involved in establishing the centre included serious illness, grief, loss and unemployment.



Sarah Vardy and Kim Moore are looking forward to having children at the new Canning Bridge Early Learning Centre in early 2015.

Photo: Jackie Smoker

"We have seen God's hand continue to guide and test our commitment to fulfilling this vision in His time – nor ours," Jackie said.

"Best practice for us includes community engagement and involvement and that is where the church has a great opportunity to connect with families of the

centre through complementary ministries such as playgroups, parenting forums, friendship groups, Christmas and Easter services – all are opportunities for engaging."

The staff hope to demonstrate the extravagant love of God in lots of little ways like having coffee ready for parents when they

drop-off their children, or extra basic groceries available so parents don't have to stop at a shop on the way home.

"Probably the greatest opportunities will come through being available to respond in hard times – crisis, grief, relationship challenges and sickness," Jackie said.

Irene serves community



Photo: Meran Byleveld

Kalgoorlie Baptist Church's Irene Thomas is looking forward to the announcements of the Bendigo Bank Community Senior Award.

Kalgoorlie Baptist Church founding member Irene Thomas has been announced as a finalist for the Western Australian Bendigo Bank Community Senior Award.

The award recognises outstanding voluntary or unpaid work by a senior serving the community. Irene continues to volunteer as the President of the seniors group at the Eastern Goldfields Community Centre in Kalgoorlie where they run

activities, including outings, games and luncheons, for older people in the community.

Irene (81) is still a member of the Probus Club in Kalgoorlie. She has served the group as President, Vice-President and Secretary over many years.

Irene and her late husband arrived from Wales in 1965 when her husband started work in the mining industry in Kalgoorlie and joined Kalgoorlie Baptist Church when it was founded in 1966.

"Over the years I've been involved in ladies ministries, Junior Christian Endeavour and Sunday School with the church," Irene said.

Today Irene still teaches Christian education one day a week at North Kalgoorlie Primary School.

A highlight of Irene's life is the 30 member strong Two Up Two Down Community Choir she sings with each week.

"My late husband and I used to sing together a lot for various functions over the years, but he died 17 years ago. At the moment I'm really enjoying the choir where we have four part harmony and I sing soprano," Irene said.

Two other seniors have been nominated as Bendigo Bank Community Senior Award finalists and the winner of the Award will be announced in Perth in early November.

Baptistcare recognises staff

Baptistcare Western Australia celebrated its annual Recognition Awards at a gala dinner in Perth on 26 September.

The Recognition Awards 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 the community throughout the year.

Baptistcare Chief Executive Officer Reverend Dr Lucy Morris was a presenter for some of the awards.

"The winners and finalists of the Baptistcare Recognition Awards are wonderful people who have made a significant difference in people's lives," Dr Morris said.

Tina Wynne won the Dignity and Compassion Award, working in disability services in Bassendean; Silo Siwawa won the Integrity and Respect Award, working in mental health and wellness services in Geraldton; Louise Yoxall won the Courage and Justice Award, working in residential aged care facility William Carey Court in Busselton; Melinda Gillespie won the Stewardship Award,

... wonderful people who have made a significant difference in people's lives.

working in residential aged care facility Mirrambeena in Margaret River; and Bev Evans won the Accountability Award, working in community aged home services in the north metropolitan area.

Dr Morris announced two other award winners at the event.

The CEO's Award for Leadership was given to Tony Fowke for his tireless work in the mental health services sector.

The CEO's Award for Advocacy was presented to Phil Glendenning for his work in human rights on behalf of asylum seekers and refugees.

Coffee for conversation

Coffee and conversation, it is a simple business philosophy but one that coffee cart operator David Bignell is using to help his customers engage in life-giving conversations.

The Top Dup coffee cart has been in operation at Murdoch University for the past 18 months and David has built relationships with many regulars who enjoy the Darkstar Coffee on offer.

Over 1,000 people pass the coffee kiosk each day and the genial David knows many by name, with high quality coffee and genuine conversation bringing customers back time after time.

For David conversation is the main drawcard.

"I see coffee as a vehicle for faith and life. It's a way to do missional discipleship where we join together with a group of young people to do something we can't do alone," David said.

"Our team of employees and volunteers are people who work on

being the best barista and the best person they can be and that flows over to bless our customers."

David started the business with his girlfriend Georgia Potts with the goals of selling good coffee and having good conversations, not only with their customers but also within their team. They want to live an authentic life as followers of Jesus. David and Georgia attend St Philips Anglican Church in Cottesloe.

"Our business is an extension of our faith," David said.

"Our staff pray together each morning and we're always interested in over the counter conversations but what we're more interested in is long term investment in people – be it coffee skills or life."

Coffee training for their team of 20 to 30 baristas is free. The age mix of committed followers of Jesus and others simply wanting good coffee making skills includes a few older people but the majority are Gen X and Y.

David's patience and emphasis on building strong relationships paved the way for permission to operate on the Murdoch campus.

"We're here as a business with cash flow needs and all because we want to make this business work, but it's just as important that we bring transparent lives with the good coffee we make," David said.

"The cart is powered by prayer and a constant stream of professional baristas and volunteers."

As well as the coffee cart at Murdoch University, Top Dup has a stall at Kyilla Community Farmers' Market in North Perth on Saturday mornings and a pop-up coffee and donut cart operating at the corner of Beach and James Streets in Fremantle on Saturdays.



Barista David Bignell serving a regular customer at Top Dup coffee on the Murdoch University campus.

Photo: Jill Birt

Top award for Scout leader

South Perth Baptist Church member Philip Friend was awarded the Silver Emu Award by The Scout Association Western Australia Branch at a gala event in Perth, recently.

The Silver Emu Award is presented for sustained and committed service by a uniformed officer for 25 years. Philip's long-term leadership in his local community is a great

model for other Christians. He has been involved with Scouts in Western Australia since 1979,

Currently Philip is the Scout leader of the troop at Carlisle – a group of about 18 young people aged 11 to 15 years. Over the years he has volunteered in many leadership roles, including District Commissioner for six years, covering an area from Midland to Byford. He has also served as Assistant Commissioner as well as other divisional roles.

"I started in Cubs when I was a child at boarding school in India where my parents were missionaries with The Salvation Army," Philip said.

"When we returned to live in Scotland, it was a natural thing for me to join Scouts while I was at high school."

Philip migrated to Australia, in November 1978 to marry a local pastor's daughter, Ruth Johnson, in December 1978.

"A few months later I started as a leader at the Mill Point Scout troop in South Perth and I've been involved in Scouting ever since," he said.

Chief Justice of Western Australia and Administrator of the State Wayne Martin AC QC presented the award to Philip, along with four other Silver Emu Award recipients.



Ministry Vacancy:
Pastor up to full time

Ballajura Baptist Church

Located 13 km from Perth's CBD and based in Malaga in Perth's Northern suburbs, Ballajura Baptist Church is a small and vibrant Christian community ministering to Ballajura and surrounding suburbs.

We are seeking a Theologically qualified/trained person to take on the role as Senior Pastor of our Church, encouraging growth through our various ministries.

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For further information and a fact sheet, please contact:

John Johnston - Mob: 0447 733 832 Email: linleyjohn@bigpond.com
Paul Mewhor - Mob: 0414 549 508 Email: pimew@iinet.net.au

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briefs

Kalgoorlie in Esperance

During Kalgoorlie Baptist Church's Family Camp held in Esperance over the September long weekend four people were baptised in the ocean: Eugene Claase, Macharl Claase, Beck Gregor, and Brandon McLachlan. Camp speaker Graham Sercombe challenged the campers to live lives where 'Faith + Obedience = The Miraculous'. Pastor Eliot Vlatko said the camp was a significant time of learning and listening to God's Spirit.

Narrogin baptisms

Noognar Narrogin locals Malcolm Jetta and Patricia

Narkle-Penny were baptised at Narrogin Baptist Church in September. Many family and friends witnessed the baptisms. Narrogin Baptist Church Pastor Peter Aitchison said it was a privilege to conduct the baptisms.

Freo prayer

East Fremantle Baptist Church joined local churches including Southside City Church and Wesley Mission in the Freo Churches Day of Prayer on 4 October. Local churches hosted prayer events throughout the day, praying for their local leaders, politicians and local communities and events.

Historical Society

The Baptist Historical Society Western Australia will meet on 23 November at 2.30pm at South Perth Baptist Church, Lawler Street, South Perth. There will be a brief AGM, followed by a panel discussion/history which will cover Alkimos Baptist College, Austin Cove Baptist College, Lake Joondalup Baptist College, Mandurah Baptist College, Quinns Baptist College, and Winthrop and Somerville Baptist Colleges (now combined as Kennedy Baptist College). The development of the Baptist schools since 1981 has been a real growth area in WA. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information, email Rhoda Walker at ejwalker@bigpond.com

Brown victory

Retired Baptist Pastor Cavan Brown and his son, Austin Cove Baptist College Chaplain James Brown defeated the Brown family tradition of disaster on adventurous outings when they climbed Bluff Knoll on 8 October without incident. Social media tracked the pair's progress to the top.

Ukrainians displaced

Baptist World Alliance (BWA) reports that the All-Ukrainian Union of Associations of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (AUUAECB) reported that approximately 5,500

Baptists have been displaced in Eastern Ukraine as a result of the conflict in that country. Some have travelled as far as Germany where they are seeking refuge. A letter received by the BWA from AUUAECB gave a graphic description of life in Eastern Ukraine. It said more than 100,000 Ukrainians are displaced from their homes, with thousands more wounded. Bridges and supply lines are destroyed. Roads and streets are blocked with checkpoints. Cannonade from explosions is heard every night. Many apartments and cars have been destroyed.

Sportsfest beats the storms

The wild weather to start the September long weekend did little to quash the exuberance of 1,200 young adults aged 16 to 28 who converged on the Leschenault Leisure Centre for Sportsfest 2014.

The annual event is coordinated by Baptist Churches Western Australia as a ministry and outreach opportunity for churches from around the state.

Teams from 34 churches including Baptist, Anglican, Reformed and Australian Christian Church travelled hundreds of kilometres to join the sporting challenge. Beaumaris Baptist Church gathered team members from several remote country churches and sent a team of 66 people. Their team included members from Dalwallinu, Kalgoorlie, Katanning, Kojonup, Merredin, Mukinbudin, Narrogin, Pingelly, Wagin, Wickopin and Toodyay.

Teams competed in 35 different events ranging from Connect Four to touch rugby. Events were contested in teams, doubles and mixed doubles or by individuals. As well as proving their prowess on the sporting field teams vied for the prestigious awards of Best Banner and Best T-shirt design. For some teams this means weeks of methodical design and development work on prototypes before the final product is completed.



Riverton Baptist Church team members claim the Big Church title at Sportsfest 2014.

Jeff Cross from Morley Baptist Church coordinates the event with significant administration support from Michelle Smoker at Baptist Churches Western Australia. Alan Hunt works on fixtures prior to and during the event, updating teams with information after each session of sport. Each church group also send volunteers to help the event run smoothly. This year almost 150 volunteers supported their teams, umpired sports and kept the program running.

"Without the volunteers we just couldn't pull off this event," Michelle said.

Events started early on Saturday morning with a parade of the teams' banners and t-shirts before the games began.

Woodvale Baptist Church had the largest team with 68 members and South Perth Baptist Church had the smallest team with just nine members.

Teams of volunteers congregated at the Baptist Churches Western Australia office during the week leading up to Sportsfest and packed backpacks for each competitor. Packs included the fixtures booklet and products from

sponsors including Baptist World Aid Australia, Imagepak Marketing, Llama Espresso, Makit Hardware, Vose Seminary and Baptist Financial Services. The backpacks were designed in Perth but made and shipped direct from Freetset in Kolkata, India. Freetset is an innovative program giving meaningful work in the textile industry to women who are moving towards freedom after years enslaved in the sex industry.

The logistics of moving sporting equipment and backpacks was mammoth. Much

of the sporting equipment needed was transported from Perth in a large trailer. Baptist Churches Western Australia office staff members travelled with full cars carrying technical support equipment and trophies.

The sports took place at the Leschenault Leisure Centre and other sporting venues in the Australind, Bunbury and Eaton area. Teams camped in local accommodation, stayed in churches or with family connections.

Plans are already underway for Sportsfest 2015.

And the winner is ...

One goal of every participant at Sportsfest 2014 was to win a team category. Four key categories were up for grabs: Big Church, Small Church, Best Banner and Best T-shirt.

Riverton Baptist Church won the Big Church title and Parkerville Baptist Church took out the Small Church category.

Woodvale Baptist Church was awarded the Best Banner for their play on words 'Fresh Prince of Bethlehem'.

Parkerville Baptist Church received the Best T-shirt award for their bright royal blue shirt decorated with white stars and



Parkerville Baptist Church modelling their winning t-shirt.

the word 'chosen'. As in previous years, huge amounts of creativity and flair were involved to dream up and create the banners and t-shirt designs.

The winning teams received a perpetual shield for the Big and Small Church categories as well as a trophy to display at their church.

Sportsfest 2014 results

Overall		
Place	Score	Church
1	531	Riverton
2	501	Beaumaris
3	483	Lakeside
4	356	Albany
5	323	Lake Joondalup
6	302.5	Woodvale
7	287	Carey
8	266	Gosnells
9	237	North Beach
10	200	Parkerville
11	195	East Fremantle
12	193	Mount Barker
13	190	Christian Reformed
14	171	Mount Hawthorn
15	166	Geraldton
16	159	Mount Pleasant
17	157.5	Girrawheen
18	150	North Coast
19	144	Bentley
20	141	Como
21	128	East Victoria Park
22	122	South Perth
23	121	Ellenbrook
24	107.5	Lesmurdie
25	101.5	Rockingham
26	96	Morley
27	75	Yokine
28	73	1Church
29	42	Deo Gloria
30	36	Eaton
31	24	Inglewood
32	11	St Matthew's Anglican
33	10	Quinns
34	0	Waratah

Small church		
Place	Score	Church
1	490	Parkerville
2	466	Ellenbrook
3	409	Rockingham
4	387	Deo Gloria
5	358	North Coast
6	348	Lesmurdie
7	314	Como
8	302	Morley
9	298	East Victoria Park
10	298	Bentley
11	236	Inglewood
12	216	South Perth
13	183	Yokine
14	99	Waratah



Feeding the thousands

Each year Sportsfest has a significant impact on the Australind economy with local businesses tasked with providing meals for the influx of participants and volunteers.

The process of feeding 1,350 hungry people in a short period of time could be a logistical nightmare, especially without the luxury of a team of cooks and a commercial kitchen.

Local fast food companies were up to the challenge and provided food for two evening meals during Sportsfest 2014.

Chicken Treat supplied hot chicken and chips, fruit and yoghurt and successfully served 1,350 people in less than 20 minutes.

Volunteer Terry Hicks decided to distribute cutlery packs to speed up the process for those queuing for their meal. He was relieved of duty when the servers discovered he had slowed the progress of the

line of people waiting for food!

Sunday evening's meal was supplied by Pizza Hut. The company closed their Australind store to the public for part of the day to prepare and cook pizzas exclusively for Sportsfest. The franchise in Bunbury also supplied pizzas for the hungry horde. The shop owners developed a shuttle service of delivery cars with a car leaving the Australind branch every nine minutes to deliver hot pizzas to the hungry sports people at Eaton Recreation Centre.

According to reviews Sportsfest 2014 participants were very positive about the food provided to them over the weekend.



Australind locals busy arranging a meal for 1,350 Sportsfest 2014 participants.

Sunday celebration

Sydney entertainer DJ Cornflake returned to Western Australia for this year's Sportsfest and pumped out the music, drawing the 1,300 plus crowd together in preparation for the evening's activities.

The court space and grandstands at Eaton Recreation Centre were packed for the Sunday night meeting at Sportsfest 2014.

Carey Community Baptist Church Youth Pastor Ben O'Reilly led a music team consisting of musicians from several churches. People engaged deeply with the music and it was a new experience for those who had never attended such an event before, especially for those who had not previously been exposed to Christian worship.

Guest speaker for the event was Steve Dixon, also from Sydney. Steve works with youth and young adults as Associate Director Youth and Young Adult Ministries with the Baptist Churches of New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory.

"What a tremendous event for churches to be involved in – especially older adolescents and young adults," Steve said.

"Sportsfest not only provides a fun and safe weekend for participants but a healthy space for young people to connect with others in a similar life stage."

"Preaching on the Sunday night was an absolute privilege and hearing about the responses made to the invitation God offers each of us through Jesus was so exciting," he said.

More than 60 people indicated they would make a fresh start in their relationship with Jesus while a further 26 young adults said they wanted to become a follower of Jesus and more than 30 said they were interested in learning more.

Those who made a response will be followed up by a youth pastor or leader from a church in their local area in the coming weeks.



Ben O'Reilly leads the worship team during the Sunday night celebration at Sportsfest.



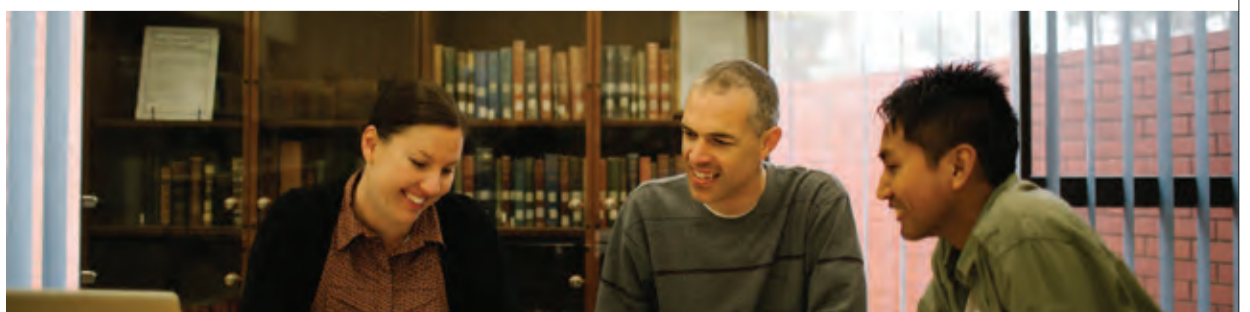
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Making affluence history

Baptist World Aid Australia and TEAR Australia partnered to present a café and live music event at Riverton Baptist Church on 19 October to highlight the need for Australians to change their lifestyle in the pursuit of making affluence history.

More than 140 people representing churches from across Perth attended the event. The majority of attendees were young adults.

Live music from *Doxology*, *Rabbit's Foot*, *The Broadbent Boys* and other artists entertained the crowd with their own music and covers. Duo Tim (12) and Ned (9) Broadbent stole the show with their slide guitar performance of 'Treat Your Mama with Respect'.

Video clips highlighting the consumerism rampant in the Western world and the big questions of some of the issues future generations will inherit challenged those attending the event.

Organiser and TEAR worker Steve McKinnon spoke to the gathering highlighting the impact of affluence and consumerism.

"If every person on the planet lives as Australia does we'd need the resources of three planets to survive," Steve said.

"Even with the help of aid and development to the poorest people of the world, each Australian needs to spend two thirds less for justice and mercy to come to the world."

"The seeds of this movement need to be planted by the church. We need to repent of our actions and change," he said.

Steve reflected on Luke 18 and 19 in the New Testament. He likened the passage to a 'Luken Sandwich'. In Luke 18 a

rich young executive comes to Jesus and asks about the Kingdom of God.

"He rejects Jesus and leaves unhappy because his wealth was a problem," Steve said.

"In Luke 19 Zacchaeus, an extortionist engages with Jesus and the Kingdom of God. He chooses to redistribute his wealth and finds the Kingdom."

Between these two accounts is the story of Jesus's conversation with a blind man named Bartimaeus.

The author tells of Jesus graciously and insightfully asking the man, "What do you want me to do for you?", giving Bartimaeus the dignity to speak for himself.

"If we're going to deal with the poor, we need to treat them with honour. Coming in and saying things like, 'I know what you need, you need an orphanage or you need a shoe box' isn't the way," Steve said.

Baptist World Aid Australia and TEAR Australia work in communities closely listening and engaging groups to discover their stated needs. They then work alongside them, giving them a 'hand up' to move out of poverty in ways that the community wants.

Funds raised through the evening's café will support Baptist World Aid Australia and TEAR Australia projects.



Steve McKinnon and Phil Croot from TEAR Australia organised the Make Affluence History café at Riverton.

Photo: Jill Birt

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Please visit the Vose web site www.vose.edu.au for the job description, application form and selection criteria.

Applications close COB 14th November 2014

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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come, grow

A Just Cause

Scott Higgins taught an intensive course on aid and development in Perth during October. While he was in town he spoke with *The Advocate* about a new venture he is involved in with Australian Baptist Ministries.

Tell us about this new venture.

I worked with Baptist World Aid Australia for about a decade and I know that Australians are strong advocates for international issues like reducing global poverty and 'Stop the Traffik'. There was a strong need for some way to help people engage with local needs, for issues of justice and indigenous people. Now I'm consulting three days a week with Australian Baptist Ministries working on this new project. It's called 'A Just Cause'.

How does it work?

We work together alongside international advocacy to provide resources for local churches to engage with issues. We want to help churches engage, not so much individuals, but helping groups engage with issues and get involved in advocacy. It's not either or, but engaging both levels of advocacy. It's a Baptist ministry, endorsed by the State Directors of Ministry and the national leadership.

You mentioned developing resources for churches. What has happened so far?

We're designing a modular system that churches can be part of. There are four quarters that churches can work through in a year, or they can take the process more slowly.

Module One is Education. There is a lot of untruth and myth being spread around as 'truth'. We need to educate the people in our churches. Do the research, find out the details about asylum seekers and refugees.

Much of the discussion in the community perpetuates unfair stereotypes and plain falsehoods. Fed to us in a steady diet by shock jocks, the tabloid press, and political leaders, they are repeated over and over until they seem to be self-evident truths. Study scripture to discover God's heart for the marginalised and destitute. Don't just accept the values and culture of the day. Test it and look for God's heart. Then take steps to live by that.

Through effective education our congregation members can: build empathy by hearing the stories of those for whom you will advocate; build understanding by discovering the facts surrounding the issue; build hope by pointing to a better way; and build faith by learning how Biblical themes address the issue. For each issue on which it campaigns A Just Cause will produce education resources that

will help people achieve this. The resources will normally include a short book that introduces the key issues; small group bible study discussion guide; video stories by those affected; preaching notes; fact sheets and tools for action. The first of these books is out now. It's called *Boundless Plains to Share? Australia, Jesus and Refugees*. It's available from ajustcause.com.au.

What about the other modules?

Module Two is church wide actions like postcards to parliamentarians. It just takes ten minutes in a service, but it really raises the profile of the local church.

Module Three is to form a social justice group. A number of churches already have a functioning Catalyst group that is engaging with international issues like Micah Challenge's End Poverty Now and the Stop the Traffik work. In this Module the church could send a small delegation to visit their local MP. It's very important for churches to build relationships with their local federal and state politicians. We know that politicians respond to issues their constituents raise. If we, the church have no engagement with our local law makers, we can't complain about not being heard.

Module Four connects churches with practical service, looking at ways we can engage with issues.

What makes good advocacy?

Effective advocacy requires four things to come together: well thought-out policy proposals; lobbying of decision makers; a constituency demanding change; and champions within the decision making group. If any of these elements of advocacy are missing it's unlikely to bring about change.

Advocates must do more than point out what is wrong in any given situation. They must demonstrate an achievable solution exists. Careful research developed into good policy proposals allow advocates to put a case for change to decision makers. While good policy in service of a just cause is necessary, it is not sufficient to effect change. Injustices exist because they serve someone's interest. To challenge these interests a person within the decision making group must be willing to champion the cause, and will need a constituency to back them up, voters in the

political sphere and customers in the commercial sphere.

The Christian churches are one of the best placed societal groups to form a constituency for justice. Our faith places justice, mercy and faithfulness at the centre of spirituality; we meet regularly; and we are committed to working toward a better world. A Just Cause mobilises churches and individual Christians to participate in well run advocacy campaigns that address all four dimensions required for effectiveness.

Why do you think Christians need to engage with the issue of refugees and asylum seekers?

Micah 6:8 holds a key: 'He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.' Justice, mercy, faithfulness – these are not just valid but critical for followers of Jesus. And Jesus' references in Matthew 23 reflect justice and mercy.

I think we're only just rediscovering what justice is all about. It's not yet part of our DNA. I sense there is a hunger to engage. Christianity is about seeking justice for the vulnerable and oppressed. Australia's attitude to asylum seekers is currently built on mythologies. Only the church can change that view. The subject needs to get to the point where it's talked about at the water cooler at work and around the dinner table. We can bring that change.



Photo: Australian Baptist Ministries

The issue is so big. How can an individual or even a small group of people make a difference?

They can't. We have to work together. They can in terms of caring for individuals but if we're set on changing national policy we need to change the conversation and we need lots of people to do that.

Is there a network operating in Western Australia?

I believe there are churches here. Our goal is to find 50 churches that will be flagships across Australia – churches that will participate in campaigning, with leadership that will look for other churches to participate in this movement for change. And

we need these churches and more to support A Just Cause financially and prayerfully. Those 50 churches then become the 'beachhead' for change and by the next federal election we hope to have 200 churches engaging with issues. That would mean a voice in almost every electorate. I don't see this necessarily as Baptist. We're not exclusive. It's a framework to work through.

What can church leaders do?

First off is to make the decision to lead their church to come on board and continue the education process. Talk with us. Go to www.ajustcause.com.au and get hold of the resources.





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Generosity: It doesn't cost a penny to pay it forward

When we hear the words 'giving' and 'generosity' we typically think in terms of financial donations. Yet, as leaders we have far more to offer than money. For example, we can give people access to our personal network, or leverage our influence to help someone else gain an opportunity they wouldn't otherwise have.

In 1792, on a chilly December day in Salzburg, Austria, an unmarried embroiderer gave birth to her third child, a baby boy named Joseph Mohr. The child's father had deserted the mother immediately upon learning about the pregnancy. The abandoned mother, already short on money, was fined a year's worth of wages for having conceived a child out of wedlock.

With an absentee father and an impoverished mother, Joseph's life prospects were dim. This was especially true in the late 18th century, when so-called 'illegitimate children' were socially stigmatised. They were routinely denied apprenticeships and educational opportunities.

One place where Joseph felt accepted was at his local church, where he sang in the choir. The cathedral's vicar, Johan Nepomuk Hiernle, took notice of the boy's musical talent, and intervened on Joseph's behalf so that he could receive an education. Joseph did well in school, and he excelled musically, learning to play the guitar, violin, and organ. Eventually, he decided to enrol in seminary.

Joseph's plans were blocked, however, as his illegitimate birth prevented him from studying for the priesthood. Hiernle again came to his aid, successfully seeking an exemption so that the young man could attend seminary. After completing his studies, Joseph was ordained, and then appointed as priest of a small parish in Oberndorf.

His second year at the church, Joseph scrambled to pull together a concert for Christmas mass. He had written a poem and shared it with a friend whom he asked to compose a melody to go with it. Joseph's friend obliged, and together they performed the song for the congregation on Christmas Eve. The tune, 'Silent Night', has gone on to become a holiday favourite, popular with churches and carollers almost 200 years later.

Thought to ponder

If not for a kind-hearted vicar, who generously used his connections to aid a fatherless, underprivileged young boy, 'Silent Night' would likely never have been written or sung. In fact, who knows what would have become of Joseph Mohr without the vicar's support and guidance?

At some point, I'll bet someone has generously intervened in your life in order to give you a better shot at success. As a way of honouring this person, take a brief moment to comment on the impact their generosity had on you. How might you be able to 'pay forward' their generosity?

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Change is inevitable

By Greg Holland

Heraclitus of Ephesus, a Greek philosopher (born in 535 BC), is known for the following statement:

'There is nothing permanent except change.'

It doesn't matter if we are working in a large organisation, a school, a hospital, our local club or for many of us our local church, we are all involved in constant change.

Why, then, is change in many organisations not 'done well'? Most studies seem to agree that change initiatives fail at an alarming rate and leaders are left to 'manage the collateral damage'.

I can't address all the activities that should occur in a successful change initiative but I will highlight one and that is 'continuous and targeted communication'.

Many initiatives fail to consider how changes affect the people in an organisation.

Organisational leaders, including church leaders, must identify the need for change and communicate it throughout the organisation.

At the most basic level, people must acknowledge and 'buy into' the need for change.

People don't want to be 'sold' on the change; they want to be told about it. They don't want to know if the change is good or bad until they understand it. What is the change? Why is the change needed? What's wrong with the way things are now? How much and how fast does the change need to occur?

Communication has been identified as a key contributor to success. Effective communication should be consistent, open, honest,

and targeted at the specific recipient. People should be encouraged to express their views, regardless of whether they are positive or negative.

In a 2003 study, the top obstacle to change was employee resistance at all levels. Participants indicated that there was a natural human resistance to change that impacted success. Surprisingly, the effectiveness of the actual organisational solution, process or system change was cited only five times in over 200 responses. (Prosci 2003, *Best Practices in Change Management*)

So, having the 'right answer' to the problem was not enough.

Change is an important area for all leaders, including our churches, to understand and ensure the right strategies and approach is taken. If you aren't sure about how to manage change, ask for help and seek out knowledge and learning in this area.

In conclusion, 'God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.' (Reinhold Niebuhr)



Greg Holland is the Business Manager at Baptist Churches Western Australia.

browse

DriveTime Devotions
drivetimedevotions.com

DriveTime Devotions is presented by Pastor Tom Holladay from Saddleback Church and provides a daily ten minute audio devotion. The series takes you through a book of the Bible at a time, focussing on a different chapter each week. The site has an extensive archive of devotions with over 25 books of the Bible included.

You can listen to DriveTime Devotions by visiting www.drivetimedevotions.com and selecting play, by downloading the MP3 file to your computer or you can subscribe to the podcast by searching for *Saddleback Church: DriveTime Devotionals* in iTunes or your favourite podcast client.



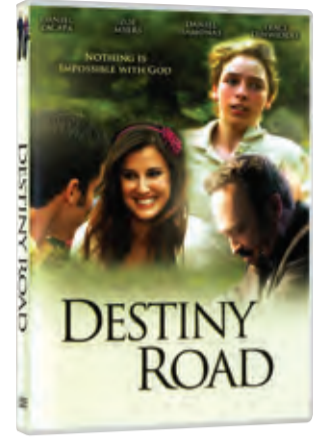
watch



Heaven is for Real
Based on the Christian bestselling book, the *Heaven is for Real* movie has been shown across cinemas nationwide. Greg Kinnear (*We Were Soldiers*) and Kelly Reilly (*Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows*) star in the inspiring story of Colton, a young boy from a small town in Nebraska who experienced heaven during emergency surgery. Directed by Randall Wallace (*Secretariat*) and produced by Joe Roth and TD Jakes.



When Calls the Heart: A Telling Silence
A Telling Silence is the third volume in the series *When Calls the Heart* by Janette Oke. Learning to face the adversities of life on the Canadian frontier, teacher Elizabeth Thatcher is distraught when a young mute girl she has befriended goes missing. Meanwhile Constable Jack Thornton discovers evidence that Cat Montgomery may have been involved in a suspicious church fire. Could the two cases be related?

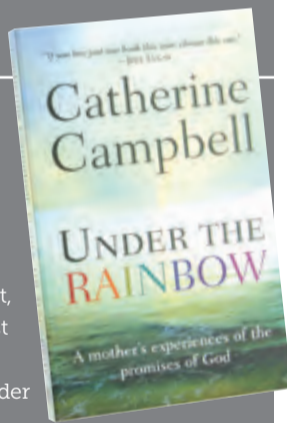


Destiny Road
Each of us walks the path of time and meets our destiny. But sometimes, during this journey, the circumstances of life seem to swallow us up, and we end up getting lost. *Destiny Road* captures the lives of three individuals with very different pasts but who all came to the same place in life. They were seeking the same answer to life's dilemmas: 'How to chart a new course in life?'

win

Under the Rainbow
Catherine Campbell

This is the story of a mother's journey with God through heartache and loss. It reveals with remarkable honesty the disappointment, devastation and anger she feels when not just one, but two, of her three children are born with multiple disabilities. We get to stand 'under the rainbow' with her as she experiences the promises of God, which eventually lead to acceptance and freedom. This book will reveal a God who always keeps His promises.



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

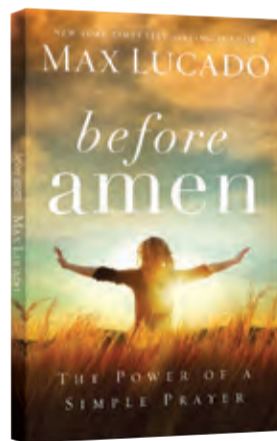
Question:

Who is the author of *Under the Rainbow*?

Entries close on Thursday 13 November and all winners will be announced in the December edition of *The Advocate*.

The winners from the *This is Vineyard Worship* competition: M Cornish, A Simpson and L Taylor

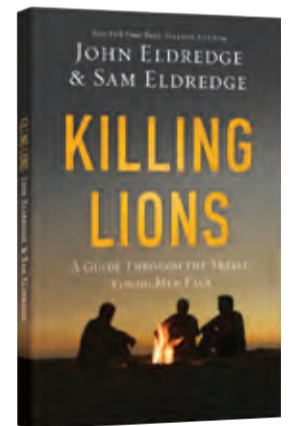
read



Before Amen
Max Lucado
In *Before Amen* bestselling author Max Lucado engages readers on a journey to the very heart of Biblical prayer, offering hope for doubts and confidence for those of us who may be 'prayer wimps.' In doing so, he has distilled prayers in the Bible down to one pocket-sized prayer. Lucado reminds readers that prayer is not a privilege for the pious nor the art of a chosen few, rather, prayer is simply a heartfelt conversation between God and His child.



Living Courageously
Joyce Meyer
In *Living Courageously* Joyce Meyer explains how, as Christians, we can overcome the paralyzing power of fear by calling upon the Lord. 'Fear not' is written throughout the Bible. It is your inherited right as a child of God to live life to the fullest and to enjoy it. Joyce encourages us to be expectant as we learn to conquer fear, become all God wants us to be, and do all He wants us to do.



Killing Lions
John Eldredge
This book was born out of a series of weekly phone calls between Sam Eldredge, a young writer in his 20s, and his Dad, bestselling author John Eldredge. Join the conversation as a father and son talk about pursuing beauty, dealing with money, getting married, chasing dreams, knowing something real with God, and how to find a life you can call your own. *Killing Lions* is an invitation into a journey: either to be the son who receives fathering or the father who learns what must be spoken.

competition

Answer: _____

Name: _____

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

Under the Rainbow Competition
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Each month a school highlights news from their campus through the School Scoop page.



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Kindergarten to Year 12 www.mbc.wa.edu.au

New film commemorates ANZACs

Mandurah Baptist College and internationally acclaimed filmmaker Jin Zi Cheng launched the production of the joint documentary film *Memory Forever* on 16 September at the College.

The feature-length documentary film is being produced to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) and the battles at Gallipoli and the Western Front.

Among the ANZACs, casualties were high with 60,000 deaths and 156,000 soldiers wounded. The documentary focuses on the four Moore brothers from Western Australia who all served as ANZACs during the First World War. Three brothers gave their lives for their country on the Western Front. The fourth, Private James Moore, was brought home to WA by the Australian Army at the request of his mother.

The details of Private Moore's inspiring story of survival after tragedy were hidden for decades until his great-nephew Vince Cusworth and grandson Andrew Bennison recently uncovered documents which revealed the true family history. At the launch event Vince Cusworth gave a moving account of his great-uncle's war experiences.

Two of Private Moore's daughters attended the launch and accepted flowers from the production crew. Interviews with the daughters filmed on the day of the launch will feature in the documentary.

Mandurah Baptist College (MBC) Principal, Tracy Holmes is pleased the film project is giving students a wide range of learning experiences.

"At Mandurah Baptist College, we aim to provide our students with opportunities to discover and develop their individual skills, strengths and talents to achieve their potential," Tracy said.

"Producing this documentary film has been an incredible opportunity for our media students to gain production experience in a way which connects them directly to WA history."

"The students have also benefited greatly from having been mentored by acclaimed screenwriter, director and film producer Jin Zi Cheng."

During the launch event College students from MBC told the audience about their experiences visiting the Western Front as part of MBC's study tours in recent years.

A student choral trio sang the Eric Bogle song 'And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda' accompanied by piano.

Production of the documentary is continuing with filming taking place at the College. This will be followed by three months of post-production with the premiere of the documentary scheduled for 2015.

The filmmaker and 40 media and modern history students at MBC have been working on pre-production for the past 18 months.

"It has been a real joy working with MBC students on *Memory Forever* and watching them flourish as filmmakers," Jin Zi Cheng said.

"We believe that there is a real need for telling Australian stories in China and we are looking forward to ensuring this touching documentary is distributed widely and seen by many [in China]."

The Asian Film Federation (AFF) Organising Committee also announced that the AFF will feature *Memory Forever* in its inaugural Asian Film Festival 2015 as part of its mission to introduce Australian film and documentaries to China and other countries.

In a pre-recorded video clip, Mandurah MLA David Templeman endorsed the film and said that it's the local family war stories which have helped shape the face of Australia.

The film has also been endorsed by Federal MP The Honourable Gary Gray AO, Member for Brand.

Mandurah Baptist College and the *Memory Forever* Committee thank MSF Film and Media, AFF Film Festivals, WA Actors & Actresses Forum, WA CEOs' Club, *Australian Film & Media Magazine*, the ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program and the Department of Veteran Affairs Commemorative Grants Team for their support.



Acclaimed screenwriter, director and film producer Jin Zi Cheng has been mentoring Mandurah Baptist College students.

Photo: Rebecca Straker



Mandurah Baptist College student Bonnie McLeod launching the production of the documentary *Memory Forever*.

Photo: Rebecca Straker

Wildcats lead NBL in prayer

In an Australian basketball first the Perth Wildcats have introduced a Prayer Room at their Perth Arena home.

The Wildcats are first NBL team to provide a Prayer Room or Chapel and the facility will be used as a tool to promote multiculturalism and faith amongst both the Wildcats players and their opponents.

Players and team officials from the Wildcats and visiting teams can visit the room on training and game days.

For Perth Wildcats Chaplain Philip Bryant the Prayer Chapel will mean he has additional responsibilities with the six time National Basketball League champions.

Philip attends most team training sessions where he is available to talk with players and team officials about faith and life issues.

"I've been Chaplain with the Wildcats for eight years now and there have been many opportunities to talk with people," Philip said.

"There are some Christians in the team at the moment but I'm not here just for them."

The Wildcats have furnished the Prayer Chapel, including a supply of Sports New Testaments.

"The Prayer Chapel will provide for all faiths but obviously I refer people on to other faith leaders if requested to, I am a Christian Chaplain," Philip said.

Philip is a pastor with Baptist Churches Western Australia. He has been involved with high

performance basketball for almost two decades, with nine years working with the State Basketball League team Lakeside Lightning at Lakeside Baptist Church. He also played in domestic competitions for 22 years in Australia.

Standing at 196cm, Philip fits in well with the Wildcat big men. His more than 30 years of pastoral ministry across Australia has uniquely equipped him to walk alongside the high performance Wildcat athletes on their spiritual journeys.

"They face issues that are just the same as everyone else in the community," Philip said.

"And they face some unique pressures too. It's my privilege to be there for them and journey with them when they want to talk."

Wildcat Drake U'u said he was proud of the club for being the first NBL team in Australia to provide a Prayer Chapel for players on game day.

"I grew up in a Christian household and my faith is a big part of who I am," Drake said.

"Having a Prayer Room at home games will be great for players who prefer to pray on their own in a quieter space. It can get pretty rowdy in the changing rooms."



Chaplain Philip Bryant with Wildcats player Drake U'u during training at the Perth Arena.

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Editor: Terry Hicks
Managing Editor: Andrew Sculthorpe
Subeditor: Jill Birt
Production: Vanessa Klomp
Creative: Peter Ion
Advertising: Natalie Coulson
Distribution: Natalie Coulson
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EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING:
Email: editor@theadvocate.tv
advertising@theadvocate.tv
Mail: Baptist Churches
Western Australia
PO Box 57, Burswood WA 6100
(08) 6313 6300
Tel: (08) 6313 6300
Fax: (08) 9470 1713

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Tel: (08) 9221 9777 Email: info@imageseven.com.au

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4 FTE x Certificate III Early Childhood Educators

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