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RCBC
MINISTRY
REPORTS



...if my people, who are called
by my name, will humble
themselves and pray and seek
my face and turn from their
wicked ways, then I will hear
from heaven, and I will forgive
their sin and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



SENIOR PASTOR (David Moyes)

Welcome to my eighth annual report. It has been an extraordinary year for the world which has impacted the global church including Reedy. First though, in January we had our annual big focus on prayer with excellent daily devotions written by Tony LaRoche, a church-wide prayer gathering (specifically about the bushfires), a special prayer ministry weekend with Pastor Greg and Elizabeth Beckingham from Sydney, and the Leaders prayed around our property. The theme was breakthrough prayer and I believe that God has shaken the church when the pandemic hit. It has caused the church around the world to "waken up" with the forced cessation of "in person" services and then the sudden decline in attendances when churches returned. Many church leaders, including our own leaders and staff, are discerning what God may be saying.

Throughout the restrictions, I was proud that Reedy Creek Baptist stayed "open" to continue our mission. Reedy Care through Karyn catered for many needs (most Op Shops closed). What a blessing Reedy Care is. Our office stayed open for those needing a listening ear, and our Online Services were of a good standard that attracted encouraging viewership, including those who do not attend any church. Several Life Groups, Leadership Team/Board meetings, and our Playgroup adapted well to zoom meetings. Thank you to the staff and leaders who rang many people "to check in" on how they were. Thank you, church, for continuing to give financially during this unsettling period, with a number swapping to electronic giving.

Post Covid-19 restrictions allowed churches in Queensland to return to "in person" services, while still observing social distancing and hygiene. To say that it's different would be an understatement. Thank you to our Covid Officers who read and interpret pages of new rules and apply them to Reedy. Thank you to our welcome and worship teams who help our "in person" services twice on Sunday mornings. Our attendance is down by around 20% compared to January and February this year. Some have moved churches, others are taking their time to return, and some who were "regular" in their attendance have become less regular. These statistics seem to be on par with what is happening across Qld Baptists. Many absentee follow-ups have and are continuing. At the same time, we have been blessed with new people – 32 of whom have been added to our attendance roll. All new people are welcomed, followed up and invited to join a Life Group.

Covid also hit our ministry groups. It is good to see most have returned; however some haven't yet including Girls' Brigade, Tribes, and RTs.

This year has also seen changes in leadership. We thank Warren Dorr and Dee Myburgh for their contribution to the Leadership Team; Adrian Headon for commencing and leading Reedy Bikers; and Neville Haling who recently resigned from leading RTs. At the end of the year Steve Goss, together with Ken and Ruth Middleton and Josh Goss will retire from serving Brigades faithfully over many years. In April, we sadly farewelled Andrew Rienecker from the pastoral team. We thank him for his service at Reedy. We are in the process of seeking applications for a children's/youth pastor or leader.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



SENIOR PASTOR (David Moyes) Continued...

One of the more significant changes this year for Reedy was the change of Hillcrest's constitution that was accepted at the Hillcrest Company Members' AGM. The change means that Queensland Baptists is the sole Company Member and as such now governs our school. Queensland Baptists has stated that they desire Reedy to continue its ministry with this wonderful school. I wish to thank the Board for their hard work during a challenging but also effective season.

I have resumed pastoral visitation since the easing of restrictions. I also appreciate that caring occurs at various levels such as in Life Groups. Thank you, Life Groups leaders, for leading during this season, showing care for one another, and teaching God's Word. We have around 110 adults in Life Groups; however, the goal is to double this number over the next two years. We also have one House Church that meets each Sunday. Please read the document "Reedy Creek Baptist Church 2021-22 Priorities" which includes the plans for Life Groups and House Churches.

Through the year our Sunday Services (and now Online Services) have covered the teaching topics on Prayer; The Book of Mark; Jesus The Game Changer; The Roadmap To Renewal; Our Values; and Wisdom from Proverbs. Throughout our Online Services and now our "in person" services, we have featured interviews with all our missionaries and chaplains, and many church people. What a blessing people's stories are.

Over the past few years, it has been encouraging to see the growing compassionate/missional heart of our church. With mission trips to Normanton (2019), Tenterfield (2019), Barcaldine (2020), and Tara (2020), the growing number of volunteers at Reedy Care and its extensive ministry to the community, and the investigation into providing accommodation for victims of domestic violence (as highlighted by many Reedy folk), our value "We Care" is alive. Well done Reedy.

During the restrictions, communication was important. We conducted five surveys that received 229 responses (and many of these represented couples). This consultation helped the leaders make decisions on important issues. The leadership also communicated information back to the church during this period with 11 RCBC Coronavirus Updates (<https://www.rcbc.org.au/coronavirus-update>).

It has been a year of changes, challenges, and opportunities. Thank you for your prayers and support throughout 2020. Thank you to those with whom I work closely – the Administration and Leadership Teams, Staff (who all work beyond their hours), the School Board, and to Leisl. It is a pleasure to serve at Reedy.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



LEADERSHIP TEAM (Jim Winter – Chairperson)

The Leadership Team commenced the year in prayer, particularly praying over our church's facilities and property with guidance from a visiting pastor and small team from another church.

Then the pandemic hit with the subsequent restrictions. During this period of several months, the Leadership Team continued to meet each week on Sunday mornings via zoom for prayer and also monthly for meetings. We also took the opportunity to ring several church folk to see how they were coping through the restrictions. Often, we discussed the advice and rules from the Government and Baptist Union regarding what our church could and couldn't do. It was also during these restrictions that we surveyed the church to assess how our online services were going, what type of person is needed to continue the ministry with children and youth, and to assess the best times for when services were to be recommenced. All these provided helpful feedback to the Leadership Team.

Last year the Leadership Team played a supportive and guidance role to enable Reedy Care to commence. It is a real delight to see this ministry flourish in 2020. We thank Karyn Butcher, the team of volunteers and the Reedy Care Committee.

We thank Andrew Rienecker for his service with us as our Next Generation Pastor. We were blessed by his ministry. We also thank David and Robbie for their leadership and service during this challenging season and all they did to keep the church connected with the Online Services. We thank Jenna List for her effective work as Reedy's Administration Coordinator and we welcome Bill Horne as our Administration Manager. Warren Dorr and Dee Myburgh resigned from the Leadership Team for different reasons. We thank them for their input at our meetings. Through the year Tom Searle, Elaine Flett, and Brian Massey passed away. We thank God for their faith and for their contributions to the life of Reedy, and remember in prayer their loved ones.

During the pandemic we took the opportunity to seek God, read articles, and assess both local and global surveys to look at trends within churches and possible future directions. We had a planning day with the staff in October. We encourage you to read the document about RCBC's priorities for 2021/22. We are excited that despite the challenges of the pandemic, the restrictions, and the aftermath, that we have a strong direction from God we are pursuing.

At our monthly meetings, we discuss and pray for various pastoral needs, long term absentees, new people, membership applications and a role review. From these discussions, the need to be more active in caring for widows was raised and therefore Jim Winter is commencing a practical care ministry for widow/ers that have a need. We also assess and follow-up on visionary matters, discuss reports from our Pastors, Reedy Care, and Administration Team, matters regarding Hillcrest Christian College, and any issues raised by members. Some of our group devotions have caused good reflection and discussion.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



LEADERSHIP TEAM (Jim Winter – Chairperson) Continued...

All members of the Leadership Team are involved in several areas in the life of the church – from other committees, Life Groups, and attendances at functions and services.

The Leadership Team members are also mindful that we need to be raising up the next generation to service in ministry and leadership.

We thank you for your prayers and support. With God's help, we are striving to rebuild Reedy to the glory of our Lord.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



ADMINISTRATION TEAM (Bill Horne)

The Administration (Admin) Team sits under the Leadership Team (LT). The Admin Team focusses more on the practical matters of running the church. This allows the LT to spend more time on missional and pastoral matters, and developing a vision and forward planning for our church. Some people are on both teams, and this helps coordination of a wide range of matters.

One of the biggest challenges this year has been COVID-19, and initially this drove us to close our doors and start online services. While recognising this is far from over, we are fortunate to have a mid-sized church with a large facility (all kudos to those whose vision and work gave us our current building). This meant that we were able to open our doors and start meeting again, all while being "COVID compliant". This has taken a huge behind-the-scenes effort and I want to thank Rob Rowe in particular for his contribution. Each Sunday morning, we have a COVID Warden on duty who ensures that we adhere to Qld government regulations.

One of the main areas of focus of the Admin Team this year has been on the maintenance and refurbishment of our facilities. It is recognised that over time this has not been adequately maintained. I hope you have noticed improvement, and with the plans we have been developing you should see more significant change in 2021.

Having said that, it would be remiss not to mention the great efforts of a small band of people including Steve Bowhay, Jim Winter, Rob Rowe, and Howard Froese who was instrumental in the installation of the solar power on our roof. I have not mentioned everyone, but such individuals have realised significant savings. It would also be of great assistance if those with building industry expertise could assist with our projects – from a planning and advisory perspective, and possibly also to offer practical help.

From 1 November we started a new position of Facility Coordinator on Sunday mornings. We have a small roster of people who will be available to assist with facility matters such as lights, air conditioning and security, as well as acting as COVID Warden.

The aims of the Admin Team in 2021 will be to finalise plans for the ongoing maintenance and refurbishment of our facilities, and to continue to deliver on those plans. Also, to support the church and the LT as we move towards a new normal that will need to include the need for a professional online presence.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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SECRETARY (Bill Horne)

At the end of July, I retired from paid employment, and in early August started working two days per week at the church. I feel that as a church Reedy is entering a new season, a time of renewal, and that it is timely that I have been brought to this point in order to provide the practical business support needed to sustain our community and mission outreaches.

It has been great working physically at the church as you always gain better insights into what happens "on the ground", and what needs to be done. We remain in a period of rebuilding, even some three years after Alan King's passing, and many of us will not forget the tireless behind-the-scenes contribution that Alan made during a sparse season at Reedy. In part, many of the tasks Alan did have been taken up by Jenna List and David Moyes, and I thank them for their efforts.

The Reedy staff members have developed a long administrative to-do list that is being prioritised and worked through. Day-to-day we are increasingly burdened with compliance requirements, there being three new ones in the last couple of months alone. These need to be methodically worked through as they are also tied to our insurance coverage. From an administrative perspective it is clear that running a church is an increasingly complex matter, and although we get great support from Qld Baptists, each church needs people who can handle these demands.

Going forward my aims are to: improve church administration; lift the administrative burden from our pastors (so they can focus on their jobs); contribute to the maintenance and refurbishment of our facilities (see Admin Team report); and make a significant contribution to the longer-term vision of Reedy so that as a church we move forward knowing that we can support our vision from a solid financial base.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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TREASURER (Leanne Lewis)

It has been my pleasure to be a part of the Administration and Leadership Team over the past 12 months in the role of Treasurer. The 2020 budget that was approved at the last AGM had to be amended due to Coronavirus, but to date we have managed to be above the revised budget (partly due to Government subsidy payments).

Our 2019 accounts, which have been audited, showed our expenditure for the year was \$17,044 more than our income for the year. This figure was close to the AGM approved figure of \$18,798. This was mostly due to the cost of installing the solar panels.

Thanks must go to Jenna for keeping us up to date with the accounts on a day to day basis and also thanks to Bill for all the spreadsheets and overview of the finances.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



MISSIONAL PASTOR (Robbie Townsend)

Looking back at 2020... it's like a blur! Many things have changed as a result of COVID and also as a result of Pastor Andrew concluding his role in March. Since church has resumed, I have been overseeing the Children's and Youth Ministries as well as the Worship and Missional Ministries of RCBC. It's been a busy year and I am excited by the prospect of having a new pastoral team member join us in 2021.

Below is a brief summary of the ministries mentioned above, but on a personal note I would like to thank my ministry team members, for their patience, their commitment and desire to serve. Jesus is worthy of our efforts, our sacrifices are of praise. I pray your times of rest this Christmas will be plentiful, your times of replenishment refreshing and energising. I am blessed to have such wonderful, caring and understanding team members. Thank you.

To the church; I remain committed to the cause of Christ, and driven by the wonder of seeing people grow as they discover Jesus and encounter Holy Spirit. I love the spirit of compassion and generosity that is displayed so often. Thank you for allowing me to serve our King here with you.

Youth

Since returning from COVID Youth ministry has changed somewhat, partly because Pastor Andrew had concluded his role as Next Gen Pastor, but also out of necessity due to a shortage of leaders. The focus has shifted onto intentional discipleship with a deliberate decision made to re-shape the culture of Youth Group at RCBC. This was only achievable through the commitment and determination of a new leadership team, for which we should all be so grateful. Tough decisions were made about how youth group would be shaped, and the rewards of those decisions are now coming to bear.

In term 4 we did the 'Discovering Jesus' series by Tim Hawkins. This promoted some fantastic discussion and has seen significant spiritual steps forward. It's very exciting! We are super stoked to have launched our camp for Jan 2021, and there is more in the pipeline (stay tuned!!).

We have recommenced the Groove program for Year 7s and 8s during the message in the 9:30am service. Bible discussions, prayer and friendships are the focus of this time and it has proven to be popular for the younger teenagers.

It is my intention for the older teenagers to become more and more engaged and involved in our AM services. This will take deliberate action on our part as service leaders, preachers and fellow service participants. I feel this is crucial to the ongoing health of our church.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



MISSIONAL PASTOR (Robbie Townsend)

Reedy Kids - including Creche, JAM & EPIC

Since returning from church shutdown, EPIC has been building a new leadership group. Next year we will have 4 teams of leaders. We are still needing support leaders, so let me know your availability! To keep things simple, we have begun using the fantastic Hillsong kids 'BIG' curriculum. Designed specifically for church children's ministry, 'BIG' uses the scriptures, animation, craft, games, and object lessons to impart bible lessons. It means there is consistency from each leadership team week to week with what is being taught, and the methods to do so. It also takes the onus off the leaders to put content together each week. The leaders love it, and the kids do too!

In term 3 we focused on drawing near to God, then in term 4 we have taught on 'Faith, Hope & Love'. It has been a real pleasure to get to know some of the youngsters and their parents over the last 6 months.

JAM and creche have trialled merging in recent months due to the lower numbers. I am grateful to the leaders who each week put together a bible lesson and craft for our toddlers and young children. Every parent loves to be able to drop their child off and sit through the message. We could do with some more leaders in JAM and creche, so please consider serving in these ministries. Big thank you to Debbie Attwell and Robyn Carter for their work in coordinating these ministries.

Worship

The worship team exists simply to facilitate opportunities for people to worship God through songs on Sunday mornings.

It has been a challenging year for the worship team because while the church was in shutdown, the worship team was the only ministry that was still functioning, albeit in a very different capacity. It was a VERY steep learning curve for all involved. Recording midweek, using recording equipment and techniques few had experience with and editing it all into a time of worship that was meaningful for the viewer was – stressful. We felt at the time that it was especially important to use our own singers/musicians so that the broader RCBC community had a sense of remaining connected to each other. I was so blessed to have a team that was willing to take risks, and to place enough trust in me not to make them look foolish. They were so patient when an expected 2 hours of recording turned into 5 or 6 hours.

Since church has returned, the worship team has served the broader church beautifully. Many people may not realise how short we are of worship team members with most team members serving 3 out of every 4 weeks, some are 7 of 8 weeks. This is a sacrificial commitment, and the whole church should be incredibly grateful to them.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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MISSIONAL PASTOR (Robbie Townsend)

During the shutdown, I met "Young Robbie" who is a friend of Grace Sutherland, who helped me re-patch and design the entire lighting system in the auditorium. This was a great success as we have not had a lighting 'glitch' since. Thanks Robbie!

This year we have welcomed Phil Cancelleri, Grace Sutherland, Mark Trebble and 'young Robbie' to our team and said goodbye to Jake Grootenboer, Marnie Rienecker, Grant Pennycuick, Natasha Dorr, Lorraine & Warren Dorr. We are so grateful for each of these people.

If you have an interest in being involved in our morning services, please come and see me.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



MISSIONS (Robbie Townsend & Donna Williams)

One of the few things we can do on Earth but not in Heaven is to reveal the Kingdom of God; telling people about Jesus and being Christ's ambassador in a fallen world. The core reason why God has placed you on the Earth is to reveal Him, and His kingdom to others. The time for mission is NOW! Once we are with Him, our chance to do this is gone. That is why we are so passionate about mission.

This year, our Missions Committee was a little larger with the welcome addition of Fleur & Lloyd Sutherland. They joined Lyn Turner, Zena Davidson, Ross Salmon, Ros Loudon, Robbie Townsend, and Donna Williams.

Since we last wrote a mission report, RCBC has sent teams out to Tenterfield on a drought relief mission and to Tara on a mercy mission. As part of the trip to Tenterfield, we organised a prayer meeting, inviting members from all the local churches to pray for desperately needed rain. Praise God, the following week it rained heavily filling dwindling water supplies. The recent trip to Tara to encourage the local church there and take food hampers and gifts was well received. We look forward to planning trips to both places in the future.

COVID 19 has had an impact on everything, not least the missionaries we support. COVID forced the return of Alison Whebell from the Burma/Myanmar border. On her return home she has found work teaching, and at this stage will not be returning. Ruth Oatridge had to abruptly return home to Australia also, where she will now stay home to care for her parents while continuing her work with Wycliffe remotely from Australia. Although it was not a "normal" re-entry and welcome back for Alison and Ruth, we enjoyed being able to catch up with them and thank them for being God's hands and feet in their places of service. Please join in prayer for them as they prepare for the next phase of their journeys.

For a time, Lyn Turner was also prevented from fulfilling her role as a prison chaplain as a result of COVID.

Andy and Cathy Staunton arrived in Cambodia in late January only to be confronted with the very real possibility of having to come straight back home. However, they were able to remain in Cambodia and have commenced their ministry there. They are currently studying Khmer, which is a full time job in itself, and the children are studying at an international school in the town.

Debbie and Paul Howells finished their translation of the New Testament (a wonderful achievement). Delivery of the freshly printed copies was delayed, but they have now been distributed. The Howells remain in the Philippines.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



MISSIONS (Robbie Townsend & Donna Williams) Continued...

The school and university shutdowns caused a major change in the way that the chaplains we support were able to connect with students. Most of their ministries moved online, some of these changes will remain for some time.

We were very pleased to be able to gift \$4000 to Liz Howland as a contribution to the new caravan with which she can continue her mission to inland and outback Queensland. Liz is currently in remote outback Queensland ministering to those Holy Spirit brings before her.

Mike visited the Church last month, and shared his leading from God to go to SE Asia to work with Global Interaction among one of the least evangelised people in the region. He will be teaching English, and sharing his life in Christ with his neighbours and friends in a culturally appropriate way. (Due to the sensitive nature of the location and people, he will only be referred to by his first name, and the area in which he is living will only be named as SE Asia. Please speak to a member of the Missions Committee if you'd like more information.) Please keep Mike in your prayers as he prepares to move.

Lastly, we want to mention all the missionaries who fill our seats on Sunday mornings and watch our online services. There are so many stories from you all of how God uses you in your workplaces, homes, families and neighbourhoods. Some we hear about, many we do not. However, God sees them. All of them. He sees all the times we stand up for what is right, sometimes at our own cost. He sees those times when you share about your faith, when you go the extra mile. These are the 'hero' moments – all the unsung things that happen in the background. Keep taking the next step, and you will be amazed at where God will lead you.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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REEDY CARE (Karyn Butcher)

It is hard to believe that we have been open for nearly one year! On December 9th 2019 we opened Reedy Care with such big plans for the year ahead. We started well and then Covid-19 hit! Thankfully, we were able to keep Reedy Care open during the lockdown period to serve the community that was in great need of food hampers and meals. People appreciated not only the support and practical help but also the chance to talk as well. Many people who we helped through that period are still regular customers now. The support of the church family during this time was amazing; our food pantry was never empty.

With the ongoing support of the Pastors, Leadership Team and Church family Reedy Care has been able to grow steadily this year. In March, we won the "Big Idea Award" for the Op Shop and Café and supported the Ladies' High Tea Fundraiser for Tenterfield and Tara. We give fortnightly support to Agape Outreach for the Homeless with homeless care bags and family hampers and regularly support a foster Mums' group with baby items. Most recently, we supported the mission trip to Tara with clothing items, baby packs and domestic violence packs and we are currently preparing the RCBC Christmas Hampers that go out into our local community and schools.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, who play a very important role in the everyday running of our church outreach, Reedy Care. We could not do it without them!

I would like to thank everyone involved in our RCBC Meals Ministry who consistently cook fresh meals when needed. This really is such a great ministry and so appreciated by the recipients. I would also like to thank Bev Hardy for her Card Ministry. Bev sends beautiful handmade cards to those suffering loss or illness, with a special word on behalf of the church family. Thanks also go to Lena Moore and her team of ladies for their Bootie Ministry, who deliver lovely handmade babies' booties to new Mums at the hospitals.

I have appreciated the support I have received from everyone this year and am looking forward to 2021 at Reedy Care.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



WELCOME (Karyn Butcher)

When we offer a warm welcome to new people at Reedy, we are saying we care about you! It only takes a moment of our time but can make someone feel at ease and it's also a great way for us to get to know them and for us to explain a little about us here at RCBC. So please take the time to be on the lookout for new people or it could even be someone in our church family that you just haven't met yet. Let's try and get to know and encourage one another.

Since our return to regular services, we have seen a number of new people join us at Reedy and some have attended our recent Newcomers' Morning Tea where they had the opportunity to meet with the Pastors, Leadership and some church family over a special morning tea, where they were able to hear about Reedy and our ministries.

Welcome Bags are given to new people to take away, with information about our church, our values, different ministries, a response card and free coffee vouchers.

Many thanks go to our Stewardship Teams who are there each week to greet people and check them in on Sundays.

We are looking forward to 2021 and to another year of welcoming at Reedy!

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



OFFICE ADMIN (Jenna List)

I am so grateful for the volunteers who come into the office each week and help with numerous different administration tasks.

Lyn Deacon assists each week with maintaining child safety and blue card records. As you may know, everyone who serves in a ministry involving children under 18 must have a 'Blue Card'. The law is as simple as 'No card, No start'. The blue card system has recently been updated and it is now a requirement for a JP, Police Officer or lawyer to certify your ID prior to lodging the application form. Unfortunately, this new step has the potential to cause some delays in processing blue card application forms. As well as holding a current Blue Card, you also need to complete a minimum of 2 modules of Child Safety training online. These short courses take less than an hour to complete. As tedious and frustrating as these rules can be, we all agree that protecting our children is paramount and therefore we endeavor to meet these requirements. Thank you Lyn for your patience and commitment to these matters.

Beth King works in the office every Thursday, preparing the Church Newsletters. Entrusting Beth with this task allows me to focus on other admin-related issues that may be on my 'to do' list. Beth also helps Robbie out with some of his additional admin work, sending emails and finalising rosters etc. Thank you Beth for coming into the office each week. We all appreciate the little things you do for us – including making us lunch most weeks!

Tom Ogilvie assists with the banking each week and has done so for many years. Thanks Tom for always being patient and reliable.

Bill Horne has recently started serving in a volunteer position here in the office 2 days a week, although his work as Secretary extends far beyond these 2 days. I am very grateful to Bill for his leadership, support, efficiency and organisational skills. He is a true administrator and has already made some great improvements to the way our office runs. Thank you Bill.

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PRAYER TEAM (Jodie Nash)

Prayer group meets every Wednesday evening 7-8pm. Each week about 6-9 regulars attend. In January we were blessed to have Dare to Believe Ministry come and pray for individuals and give prayer training to the leadership of Reedy. In February we had a special night to pray for the bush fires. On Wednesday March 18th our Wednesday evening team prayed over the pantry cupboard at the end of our prayer night. We didn't know that this would be our last time praying physically together for a few months or that the homeless charity Agape would be blessed by the abundance of giving that the Reedy Care pantry received over those months.

As we couldn't meet up during that time we stayed in our homes and received a prayer email/text and committed to pray during the normal Wednesday 7-8pm time slot. Those that previously weren't able to come to the night meeting were able to be a part of this.

After two months we met again on Wednesday 20th May in the foyer to adhere to social distancing requirements. This was the first official meet up in the church since Covid restrictions so it was good that it was for prayer. Then the week before physical services recommenced at Reedy Baptist in August, we had a prayer and fasting day on the Sunday at the church. The prayer group has returned to the prayer room and each week are blessed in praying for the church, the world and for God's will to be done. As well as those that come to the prayer group another dozen receive a weekly email covering prayer points for the night. This would not have come about if not for restrictions showing us that there are people wanting to pray for the church but not able to physically come.

For those interested in praying you are welcome to join the group or receive emails to pray in your home.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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DEPARTMENT OF FUN (Zena Davidson)

Let's Get Together

Despite Covid-19 restrictions, we have had a wonderful year of fellowship and a tremendous opportunity to support mission projects at Reedy.

For Terms 1 & 4 our focus, prayers & donations were for Tara, a Queensland country town, approximately 4 hours west of the Gold Coast. With Terry & Ruth Adair's guidance and suggestions, we have supported a number of children to attend the November School Camp at Tallebudgera Beach. At the recent road trip on Saturday 7th to Monday 9th November, I was able to personally deliver to Terry and Ruth a car boot load of donated toys for the Tara Community Church to distribute to children this Christmas. Also, two of our fantastic cooks, Barbara Kovac and Bev Hardy, baked a wonderful array of cakes, slices & biscuits that continued to bless/feed many throughout the 3 days. This not only included the Tara Community Church, but also the local Police, nurses and the teachers at the Tara Shire State College.

This year we have again supported the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Box Appeal. Throughout the year, ladies have been sewing and knitting items to put into the boxes. With the commencement of Covid, I presented this appeal online and Reedy Care was able to provide and receive shoeboxes from both our Reedy folk and the wider community. When we were able to return to our Church building for worship and fellowship, our 'Wall of Christmas Boxes' grew behind the Missions Café again. With the addition of generous cash donations, I was able to purchase an abundance of items and set up a display at my home. Over 2 weekends I coordinated some of our young Reedy girls to enjoy putting together over 60 boxes, plus this provided an opportunity to share the 'Joy of Giving'. We hope to continue this vision next year.

On Tuesday 27th of October, we were able to deliver a record 240 boxes to the Burleigh depot, plus pay the \$10 for each box to be shipped. Thank you for your generosity! Last year our 150 boxes were delivered to the Philippines. We will wait to see where they go this year!

Unfortunately, due to Covid, the 'Youth With A Mission' medical ship to Papua New Guinea has been docked at Townsville. They have, however, informed me that they hope to continue to visit PNG in March 2021. In the meantime, we still have personally delivered a number of boxes of pre-loved prescription glasses to Townsville HQ.

A huge thank you to our activity and hospitality leaders for making LGT possible. Our many activities have included Art, Bible Study, Board Games, Card Making, Cook & Share, Craft for a Purpose (Crochet, Knitting & Sewing), Easy Exercise, Jigsaws and Photography. Next year we would also like to reintroduce Table Tennis, Pool, Carpet Bowls and even 'Fix it & Make it' (aka mini Men's Shed).

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



DEPARTMENT OF FUN (Zena Davidson) Continued...

Please see me if you are interested in leading one of these new activities in 2021.

We look forward to seeing men and women joining Let's Get Together next year. It is open to both our community and Reedy folk. We resume on Wednesday 27th January from 9.30am to noon.

Let's Do Coffee

Let's Do Coffee is now held at the Café in 'Reedy Care' from 10am-11.30am every Monday morning. During this time, women have a chance to gather together to encourage, support and build friendships. LDC is also open to women who do not attend Reedy.

Reedy Missions Café

Our Reedy Missions Café continues to offer hospitality to our Reedy family and friends on Sunday mornings by providing fresh coffee, hot chocolate, tea and cold drinks. All monies received support our Reedy Missions projects. Unfortunately, since Covid our fantastic RM Café Team has gone; we also have the added challenge of catering for 2 services (necessary for us to be Covid compliant). Hence I'm currently building a new team. Please see me if you are interested in being trained as a barista or helping to serve at the Café, even once a month.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



PLAYGROUP (Rachel Savage)

What a fun time we have had at Playgroup this year! We have continued to meet on a Tuesday morning, led by Rachel Savage, with the assistance of Lena Moore. Following on from last year's success, when we introduced themed terms, we began the year in Term 1 with an 'Under the Sea' theme. A theme allows us to choose a craft, a story and often songs or actions that can all fit with this same theme.

By March though, we had to make a call to close playgroup while the Covid-19 lockdown occurred. I was able to connect with our members through our Playgroup's private Facebook page and continued to read a story for the children each Tuesday morning. During the winter holidays, as restrictions eased we met for a park play at Burleigh.

Thankfully by Term 3, with some adjustments, we were able to begin meeting again. Term 3's theme was 'Transport' and we enjoyed a lot more outdoor play using mini road signs to create a track and excitement outside. We limited the amount of toys put out each week as extra cleaning was and still is required for each item played with.

Term 4 has been a repeat from 2019 as it was so enjoyable - 'Rainbow' theme! Each week the children and their parent/carer are encouraged to dress to the colour theme of the week. We have even enjoyed 'colour themed' food for the adults! The rainbow dancing ribbons are always a hit at music time and have helped us learn our colour names. We are also working on learning the signing for each colour as some of our members are learning signing for their communication.

The addition of the Op Shop this year has allowed Karyn to often mention to mums with young children that we have this group running. It has been wonderful to have new people join us through Karyn's introduction. As the year finishes, we are looking forward to some updates to the outdoor play area that will benefit our Playgroup kids, children visiting our Op Shop café and, of course, our church children on a Sunday. Despite the challenges that 2020 has brought, I believe Playgroup has served an important role of connecting people (particularly young women) together. Thank you RCBC for your prayerful support of our ministry.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



3RD GOLD COAST BOYS' BRIGADE (Stephen Goss)

This year in Boys' Brigade has been a year of God's timing. Due to COVID-19 we have only been able to meet in Term 1 and Term 4. Through it all we have seen God's timing is always perfect and when we trust Him with our plans, He always delivers, although sometimes not the way we expect.

The year started off well with plenty of enthusiasm and many events and activities planned. Our Company camp is usually held in Term 1 but this year we had to change it to Term 2. What we didn't know was God had other plans for our camp and it turns out our camp was the weekend before every shutdown due to COVID. Our camp was held at Bornhoffen in the Numinbah Valley. It was a great time of fun and fellowship as we joined with the Girls' Brigade to build relationships, help the brigaders grow closer to God and encourage these young people to step out and try new things. Our theme this year was "Camp Joy" and we looked at what it means to have the joy of the Lord in our daily walk and to have joy in all situations, no matter what happens. We also learnt a song by Sidewalk Prophets called "Smile", which reminded the brigaders that "there's always a reason to always choose Joy – smile". Through the camp the brigaders grew closer to God as they shared their own experiences and learnt to press into Him.

This year the boys have built a trebuchet, played many fun and skill building games, created some exciting crafts including building ships out of timber and Christmas decorations, and have spent a lot of time learning to trust God, reading His word together, and learning what it means to follow God's plans and have their hope centred in Christ.

I have again been blessed this year to have worked alongside the wonderful leaders Steve Hardy, Ken Middleton and Joshua Goss. The support these men give me is invaluable, and I want to thank them for their commitment and dedication. They have walked alongside the young men and shown them what it means to serve God in a fun and engaging way.

During the COVID break God spoke to me after much prayer and seeking His will, and once again his timing was perfect. I have since informed the leadership team that after a long period of time being Captain of Boys' Brigade I would be standing down at the of this year. Mr Middleton and Joshua Goss have also indicated that they will be finishing up at the end of the year to take on more active roles in their respective churches. We thank these gentlemen for their years of service to our church and this vital ministry.

It has been a privilege to lead this ministry and I have seen God do amazing things, such as turning young boys into Christian young men, many now serving in their own churches. My prayer is that people come forward to lead and serve in this great ministry that changes the lives of so many.



REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



JOY OF PHOTOGRAPHY (Jodie Nash)

JOPs started the year in February going to Emerald Lakes. Although it was a wet day we had 8 people attend, including a family not connected to Reedy Creek Baptist, except through JOPS, and a past Reedy Creek member. Our next event was scheduled for early April. This event was cancelled due to Covid. There was talk of another event happening in August but restrictions were re-introduced so this event was also shelved. Instead our connecting has been through sharing on the JOPs facebook group. Like many other groups it has been a different year for JOPs and yet we're still about to have joy in our photography, even if it's been more separately done for 2020.

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



E.R BIKERS

The beginning of the year saw us as Reedy Bikers and by the middle of the year we had changed the name to ER Bikers. Reasoning behind this was to reflect more about what our purpose is! E = Enjoy R = Ride. Enjoy the Ride Bikers! This is and has been our motto! We also introduced some basic courtesy rules due to a couple of incidents that needed a reset.

The beginning of the year was, as everyone experienced, very restricted, challenging and unknown hence we did not have our normal ride on the roads. We did however have a cyber-Ride in which a number of us participated and Enjoyed the Ride while in lock down!!

Adrian Headon passed the mantle onto myself to lead the group.

Also I'll add here, prior to COVID restrictions we had planned to revisit Tenterfield and work on a couple of projects - We will put this back on the agenda for early next year Lord willing.

We joined in on the Trip to Tara Nov 7 - 9. Only two riders braved the full trip to Tara while 2 others came part way in show of support. The ride out was about 6hrs and the ride back 5hrs.

Even though COVID had thrown us a curve ball we were still able to enjoy a number of rides while practising the physical distancing rules and we were joined by some new faces - both Christian and non-Christian. If you could please pray for them to continue to meet with us and 'Enjoy The Ride' that would be awesome, especially that we can share the Gospel with them.

We are planning 2 more rides before the end of the year.

Pray for us to create interesting rides.

Pray that we remain safe on the roads.

Pray that we can truly build meaningful relationships.

Pray that Christ will be preeminent.

Pray that the non-Christian riders will come to know Him.

Early Next Year (currently pencilled in for 7/2/21), we will have our Annual Ministry Dedication Church Service. We have invited the Christian Motorcycle Association to join with us.

We are hoping and praying for an amazing 2021, with several different rides and opportunities to befriend others and win some for Christ

REEDY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Ministry Reports



HILLCREST PRINCIPAL (Jeff Davis)

This year of 2020 has been one that the Hillcrest Christian College community shall never forget for a range of reasons outside of our control in the main. At this time last year we were experiencing a fairly significant drought, followed by bushfires across the South East Australian coastline and then as we were about to return to school for the start of the new year, a massive once in a hundred year flooding episode where a number of classrooms needed to be completely rebuilt in a very short period of time. Following this came the Coronavirus pandemic which completely changed the way that we conducted school on a daily basis. We had to learn how to teach on-line and to navigate the difficulties of having half the students at school while others were sitting at home trying to complete complex work on a daily basis.

We thank God for His favour through these seasons and also for the guidance he gave the Board and leaders of the College. As we progressed through the year, we continued to find ways to ensure that our students were safe and secure in our environment and were able to continue on their learning journey throughout the year. There were many changes to the way we were able to gather and worship God both in school and in Churches, but we managed to continue to teach the truth of the Gospel and in this time focussed people on the almighty power of God in all situations. We saw many students gain a better understanding of God through our modified chapel services and extended worship sessions. These were incredible highlights of the year.

This year was the first year of the new ATAR system for our year 12 students. Of all years to be experiencing this external exam-based system, 2020 was perhaps the most difficult imaginable for these students, but our staff made sure that these students were able to continue their learning journey throughout the year and these students are just completing their final exams. A highlight for the year 12 students this year was the formal which was held in the SLC courtyard and completely run by the College. Staff dedicated their time to ensure these students were blessed and truly saw the love we all have for them through Jesus Christ. At the last Gathering experience a video was shown of year 12 students talking about what they thought of God after their learning experiences at Hillcrest. There were many heartfelt and touching stories of how students grew in their faith through their learning at Hillcrest, however there was one young man who summed up the essence of why Hillcrest is so important. In his words he stated; "I come from a non-Christian family and if it wasn't for Hillcrest, I never would have heard of Jesus". We should never forget the opportunity we have to reach into the lives of students and show them the eternal love of Jesus Christ on a daily basis.

I would like to thank all members of RCBC for their encouragement, prayers and support through this difficult year. The Hillcrest staff members have been truly amazing. They have worked tirelessly throughout the year to adapt and modify what and how they worked in every job at the College. In a year that could have been lost, the staff team at Hillcrest rose to every challenge and surpassed every expectation we could have ever established. Let us continue to jointly pray that Hillcrest Christian College continues to shine God's light into our community and beyond.