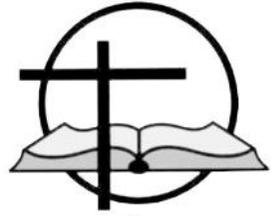


November 2022



# **BELONGING PEOPLE**



*Gathering Together at Bush Training Camp, Chilla Wells*

*Read about it on pages 8&9*

## Walk the World with Baptist Mission Australia



**K**onstantin Rengarten was probably the first person to walk around the world. He walked from Riga in Latvia across Asia, North America and Europe, finishing back in Riga on September 27, 1898. Aidan de Brune was the first white person to walk around the perimeter of Australia, unaccompanied and unassisted. It took him 2.5 years from September 1921 to March 1924.

If Ellen Arnold -who was the first Australia Baptist to serve on overseas mission – had walked to the mission field it would have taken 1,700 hours, or 71 days, of non-stop walking to get to India from Adelaide!

If thoughts of these great adventures makes you want to pull on your walking boots and set off into the unknown then let me tell you about Walk the World, an exciting new interactive prayer initiative Baptist Mission Australia would love you to be a part of. Churches, families, youth groups and individuals of all ages are invited to get out in your local area and pray for the community and the world.

Across the weekend of November 11-13th 2022, Baptist Mission Australia invites you to join together to pray for your neighbours both local and global as you walk, run, wheel, cycle, imagine or drive around your neighbourhood.

As you enjoy the wide-open spaces pray for God to be at work in your local community and in communities around the world, for hearts to be changed and lives to be opened to receive the great news of the Gospel.

Registration is free:

[www.baptistmissionaustralia.org.au/WalktheWorld](http://www.baptistmissionaustralia.org.au/WalktheWorld)

While you're there check out the resources to help you make the most of the weekend, read the prayer points from our teams serving overseas and in Australia and read about the prizes on offer just for getting involved.

**Lisa Cornish**  
**SA/NT State Leader**  
**BMA**



# *The New President's Message*



Firstly, I would like to say what a privilege it is to be able to serve the Baptist Family of the Northern Territory as what may be the ultimate president. By this I mean I may very well be the last president of the Baptist Union of the Northern Territory as we move to a merger with the Baptist Churches of South Australia. A resolution was passed at the BUNT AGM to proceed to make steps toward the amalgamation. We have a task force, comprised of representatives of the two boards that has been meeting regularly to talk about what it might look like in theory, to raise questions or concerns and identify practical steps that might need to be taken. The task force will be meeting late January in Darwin to move this process forward in a more practical way.

Our Baptist Family Gathering was held at Cornerstone Christian Fellowship this year and an attempt made to make it more conference like and relational. The keynote speaker was Dr. Brian Harris from the Avenir Leadership Institute, and he presented some very thought provoking and timely messages.

Andrew Turner from Crossover delivered a message on the Friday night at short notice, again thought-provoking and inspiring.

Relationally we want to build a greater awareness of the wider Baptist Movement ministries and we had representatives from Baptist Mission Australia, Crossover and Baptist World Aid. Unfortunately, our major sponsor, Baptist Financial Services, was unable to send a representative due to another conference, but thanks to them.

Another exciting event was a visit to the Indigenous Communities by Mal and Chris Good from Casuarina Baptist, Scott Pilgrim the director of Baptist Mission Australia, Melinda Cousins director of Ministries SA and Elliot Keane from Baptist Churches SA. The visit was to listen to and encourage the leaders of the churches and was a great time of mutual benefit.

I am looking forward to the time ahead.

**Neil Wright**  
**President, BUNT**

# The 2022 Baptist Family Gathering

## 'Swimming Against the Tide'



**T**he Baptist Family Gathering, was held on the September 16-17 at Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, Howard Springs. This was a great venue with its Corner Café and spaces for separate 'Breakout Sessions' led by guest speakers.

Traditionally known as the 'BUNT Assembly', the name change heralded an intention by the Board Fellowship this year to make it more relational to a wider cross section of our church attendees.

*Swimming Against the Tide* was the title for the Gathering with the aim of 'bringing together generations to encourage, equip and empower for the cause of Christ and the extension of His kingdom.'

The Gathering kicked off with a Youth event on Friday evening. Following a generous meal, Andrew Turner of Cross-over shared an excellent message which impacted those present. Andrew is the author of *'Taking the Plunge'*, a book on baptism, which he gave away to interested listeners.

The keynote speaker on Saturday was Dr. Brian Harris, former Principal of WA Theological College and now from the Avenir Leadership Institute. In keeping with the theme of *Swimming Against the Tide*, Brian highlighted the current 'Tide' of Me, Myself and Me, and the Self - Absorption of the present age.

Further themes of Brian's were 'Praying Dangerously and 'Living As If the Kingdom is coming'.

Other visiting speakers with challenging and encouraging messages were Steve Woods (Baptist World Aid) Andrew Turner (Crossover), Rachael Stevens (Next Gen) and Lisa Cornish (Baptist Mission Australia SA/NT).

### **BUNT AGM**

In view of the proposed amalgamation of BUNT with BCSA, a Task Force was formed to steer this process. This comprises, Mal Good, Mal Sercombe, Neil Wright and Mike Mills with representatives also from BCSA.

Following elections prior to the AGM, the current Board is:

**Neil Wright—President**

**Mal Good—Immediate Past President**

**Rosa Malpartida - Treasurer**

**Mike Mills—Director of Ministries**

**Lincoln Agnew**

**Toni Rehrmann**

The Board and the churches are served well by Priscilla Howard who deals with administration and bookkeeping.

Sincere appreciation was expressed for all those who have served faithfully and put in many hours of work for BUNT.

Mal Sercombe and his wife, Ellen were thanked for Mal's 20+ years of service on the BUNT Board. They have been a huge blessing to the wider NT Baptist Family over these years

The weekend was also an opportunity for meeting and fellowshiping together. It was good to welcome Lynette and Mary from Lajamanu and George from Kalkaringi.

First time attendees were Danny and Beth Hunt, serving with BMA at Yuendumu and Kevin and Christina Young. Kevin is the Interim Pastor at Katherine Baptist.

On Saturday evening, a large group sat down at decorated tables to enjoy a catered dinner and listen again to our guest speakers.

Hearty thanks go to Cornerstone Fellowship for hosting the Gathering and providing delicious food and drinks over the weekend as well as setting up for the catered dinner.

*L\_R: Beth, (Yuendumu) Mary and Lynette (Lajamanu)*



## ***New Elders at Darwin Baptist***

**D**arwin Baptist Church had the joy of welcoming two new elders to the leadership team in September. These Godly men – who bring a unique combination of giftings and character – have a clear heart for the Lord and are strong examples of servant leaders.



**Ian McInnes:** Ian and his wife Janet joined Darwin Baptist Church in February 2020. Ian has been a Christian for almost 40 years and has been a constant contributor to church life over that time. As well as pastoring a church in rural Victoria, he has also been involved in youth ministry and eldership teams. Ian trained as a fitter and turner but has worked in the area of maintenance for various industries including mining. His hobbies include jewellery making with gemstones and silver, watching the sunrise, cycling and swimming.



**Ben Finnimore:** Ben grew up in a Christian family, but it wasn't until his teenage years – when a debilitating sporting injury was healed by prayer – that he decided to take ownership of his faith and be baptised. He has been a part of DBC for about six years, and has been involved in Connect Groups, Valiant Man and prayer ministries. He currently helps the Food for Life ministry each fortnight. Ben has been married to the love of his life, Melody, for four years. While Ben loves to serve, he is also an encourager who listens well. He is affectionately known as “Bengineer”, in recognition of his profession.

*Continued next page*

### Darwin Baptist Church's prayer for our new elders:

Heavenly Father,  
You gift us uniquely and grant us roles specific to the kind of people you made us to be. For this, we are so grateful. We want to thank you for the diversity of your big family and thank you for your call on Ian and Ben as they set themselves to minister in this area.

Lord, as these men serve you at DBC, we pray your blessing upon them and pray You will continue to equip and resource them with all they need for their role. We pray that as they are blessed, they will in turn be a blessing to us – your church – and to the work of your kingdom. We commit them to You, Father, in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Kate Woods*



## With Danny and Beth Hunt at Yuendumu

**W**e spent most of our time here (at Yuendumu) familiarising ourselves further with the town, meeting local *yapa* (Warlpiri), including more of the believers, and some *kardiya* (white fellas) working with various organisations. It was a privilege for Danny to share briefly at two different church gatherings. We keep learning so much.

One highlight has been getting to know **Andrew Stojanovski**, who pioneered with others the *Mt Theo* program which ultimately curbed the youth petrol sniffing epidemic. We have found his book ***Dog Ear Cafe*** one of the most helpful descriptions of the wider challenges still involved today.

Big news is that Outback team members **Mat and Shannon Anderson** and family are moving north to Kalkarindji in 2023, after 4 years based at Yuendumu. This means until we have full time people there again, we will soon be the only team members alongside the Indigenous community in Yuendumu. At the same time our rhythm of being based there for about a third of the year is starting to settle. The change will present new opportunities and challenges for all of us.

**PRAISE God** for the relaunch of the Bush Camps, growing relationships and momentum for our team alongside the Indigenous communities.

**PRAY for more full-time people** to join the Outback team, especially in Yuendumu.



## ***Bush Training Camp makes a Come-Back***



Via oral teaching with iconography, intense discussion in Walpiri following Mark (Creation) and Mat's (Reconciliation) input in English, a Purlapa on the final night, and long one-on-one conversations, the themes were explored through interaction with Bible

**F**or the first time in around 6-8 years, a combined Bush Training Camp for indigenous churches was held July 7-11, at Chilla Well, around 130 NW of Yuendumu, just off the Tanami Track. Approximately 35 representatives attended from a number of communities, including Yuendumu, Lajamanu and Ali Curung. The entire BMA Outback Team was able to be present.

The passing of two church members in days just prior to the camp meant that "Sorry Business" had to be attended to during this time, but it was really encouraging that people were committed to come in spite of this important cultural activity.

The theme of the teaching was "Creation and Reconciliation", with major input from Mark Holt (Melbourne) and Mat Anderson (Yuendumu), along with Jerry Jangala (Lajamanu).

passages in Genesis, 2 Corinthians and Galatians/Colossians.

Meals around smoking fires, camped out under the stars, intercultural learning, deep consideration in informal small group conversations and simple singing accompanied by guitars, free time bush tucker gathering and hunting, and barefooted children scooting through the dust, made for a richly memorable and profitable experience. Notes for further learning in the communities will be produced in coming weeks.

All in all, this was a worthwhile, and at times deeply moving camp (though not without challenges) that indigenous leaders and BMA staff agreed alike would be picked up again in 2023, possibly in two different locations at two separate times.

***Vivian Grice  
Outback Team Leader***



# Bush Training Camp

## Chilla Well



## July 2022



**Front Cover L-R:**  
Neeta, Beth, Mat, Danny, &  
Vivian with Jangala (seated)

## *God at work in Katherine*

**K**atherine Baptist Church (KBC) had been praying and advertising for a pastor to come to Katherine for 18 months. The number of people coming to worship was so small that we were sitting in a circle, so it did not seem as bad with so few in a church auditorium. This was back in May, and being quite discouraged, the Church Board and members met to pray and fully consider the future of KBC without a pastor. We made a plan to hold services until the end of the financial year.

After that meeting, that very night and to our amazement, an application came through from a pastor in South Africa. KBC soon invited Pastor Roydon and his wife, Debbie Burns to come as pastor. However, for Pastor Roydon to be able to emigrate to Katherine, we soon found that it is a slow and complicated process, for there is much to be completed with the Department of Immigration.

Meanwhile, KBC continued to meet for worship and being the dry season, there were visitors who often came to meet with us.

Many of them offered encouraging words and prayers for us.

Though excited that a pastor had been appointed, it was becoming increasingly more challenging for the leaders to keep going. Then in early August, the church secretary, Alice, received a phone call from Kevin Young, who was inquiring as to whether the pastor position was still available (God is never early, never late, but always on time). Alice explained that a South African pastor had been called, but an interim pastor position was available here.

God was showing His care for KBC, the leaders and the Youngs. Kevin and Christina Young knew that God was calling them 'to go and make disciples' and had left their home in Forster in NSW in February. After spending some time in Alice Springs, they headed north in their caravan after their conversations with Alice, the KBC Church secretary, the Youngs arrived in Katherine on Friday 5th August and Kevin began preaching on Sunday 7th .

KBC is very blessed that Kevin and Christina are here, and we celebrate the goodness of our Heavenly Father. Kevin and Christina have no idea how long the interim period will be, yet they are faithfully serving Him. Already there have been some salvations since their arrival, some people re-dedicating their lives to Jesus, a baptism, a group for primary-aged children established and the Warlpiri Baptist Church is once again holding a Sunday night service and a Wednesday night Bible study.



***Kevin baptizes Isaac***

We are truly thankful and are humbled by the way God is at work at Katherine Baptist Church.

*Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us. (Ephesians 3:20 NKJV)*

***Cynthia Prime***  
***KBC Board member***



***Christina and Kevin Young***

### **New Address for Old Friends**

**Rev. Bill and Pauline Morrison**, who recently served with Global Interaction at Lajamanu and Kalkaringi are now residing at:

**2 Frederick Street, Ferntree Gully, Vic 3156.**

Bill is the Pastor at Ferntree Gully Baptist Church.  
They send warm greetings to all their friends in the NT.

## Visiting & Blessing Casuarina Baptist

**O**ur pastors, Mal and Chris Good, took well-earned leave during June to August 2022.

In that time **Keith and Marilyn Jobberns** from Sydney ministered among us. Keith and Marilyn served as missionaries in Indonesia (Papua) and then pastored in Sydney. Keith was General Director with Baptist Mission Australia (Global Interaction) and more recently as the Director of Australian Baptist Ministries. Keith recently retired. Marilyn is a qualified counsellor.

Keith and Marilyn exercised their unique pastoral gifts - quickly connecting with individuals, the congregation with its ethnic mix and various groups including Food for Life, Women's coffee morning, Women's craft and a Working Bee.

Keith gave a series of insightful messages that took us through Philippians. His and Marilyn's life experiences in relationships were evident.

From Philippians Chapter 1:

**Praise** (I praise God for you every time I think of you – focus on the good not the bad);



**Keith and Marilyn Jobberns**

**Prayer** (for you to grow in love, live for God's glory); **Patience** (God is doing a good work in you until that day when Jesus comes); **Passion** (have you in my heart with the affection of Jesus, filled with God's love). All the messages are on our web site, **Casbap.org.au**  
We are delighted that Keith and Marilyn made themselves available. It is great to have Mal and Chris again with us, refreshed to pastor the church for the season ahead. Thank you Lord.

**John Gronow**

## *On The Beach at Nhulunbuy*



It has been a tradition for some years for the churches of Nhulunbuy to gather together each month for a combined evening service at a local beach. This is an opportunity for churches, including Nhulunbuy Baptist, to come together and 'celebrate God and life'. In this lovely setting, to fellowship with each other and give thanks to God.

**Davin Blundell**, a leader at Nhulunbuy Baptist Church, says that one of the

challenges at Nhulunbuy is the itinerant nature of the population

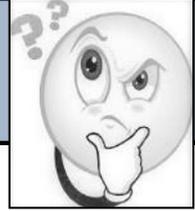
Thus the aim of NBC is to simply bring people together for worship and encourage them in their faith journey. The Church meets at the Nhulunbuy Town Hall most Sundays for worship.

Once a month **Café Church** is held at different venues where the focus is on fellowship and encouraging one another in faith and love.



**At the Baptist Family Gathering: L-R Mal and Chris Good (Casuarina) Beth and Danny Hunt (Yuendumu)**

## IS AN INTERNSHIP FOR YOU?



*“I think ministry is in my future but I’m not sure.”*

*“I want to explore how I can follow Jesus in my vocation.”*

*“I’m not sure where I’m headed but I would love some direction.”*

If you are asking one or more of these questions, perhaps the Internship program of Baptist Churches of South Australia (BCSA) is for you.

**The internship is a leadership development pathway where people of all ages can grow their discipleship, stretch their leadership, explore their spirituality and live out an adventurous faith.**

### ***What’s involved?***

Interns attend modules, work alongside a leadership coach, meet regularly with a spiritual mentor and share the journey with other interns. The interns are encouraged to try new opportunities in their local church, using the framework of a personalised Learning Covenant.

### ***Can I do the course if I live in the NT?***

Yes, wherever possible modules are streamed so you can be part of this internship opportunity.

**If you’d like to find out more, check out [sabaptist.asn.au/internship/](http://sabaptist.asn.au/internship/) for more information.**

**Priscilla Howard** is the first in the NT to undertake the BCSA internship course. She explains what it has meant for her. “The internship is a year course which runs from March to November. There are 14 modules on Zoom (approximately every 2-3 weeks), plus this year there was a two-day structured retreat in South Australia. The best thing!

There is also the opportunity to meet regularly with a Spiritual Mentor to read the Bible and pray together, and a Leadership Coach, with whom you develop a Learning Covenant.

*This is absolutely a course where you get out of it what you put into it.*

I would encourage openness, honesty, and expectation of what God will do in and through you.”

Priscilla’s Learning Covenant has been tailored toward ‘Cultural Inclusion in Worship’. Her home church of Casuarina Baptist has a multiethnic congregation, with many languages and cultures represented.

Already a member of the Worship Team at CBC, Priscilla says she now has a specific role which is to encourage the congregation to worship the Lord together in their own distinctive ways. Priscilla invites people to do the Bible reading, lead in prayer, and share songs during the service, often in their own heart language.

“For our church, it’s about creating an environment that is open and inviting for people of all cultures to participate and to use their gifts and abilities unhindered.” Priscilla sees her role as facilitating and coordinating, encouraging and journeying with people while building relationships. She adds, “I’ve experienced discouragement but you push through... and it’s so richly rewarding...because of the hard work. It’s constantly challenging.”

“This internship and my related role have forced me to think deeply, to engage with what God’s doing in my life and others. I’ve developed in confidence knowing I’m doing the work God has called me to. I don’t know what’s next... but I’m looking forward to finding out!”

**Andrea Adams**



***Priscilla leading worship***

***To find out more about the internship, contact Elliot Keane, Leadership Development Facilitator BCSA, on (08) 83571755 or [ekeane@sabaptist.asn.au](mailto:ekeane@sabaptist.asn.au).***

## *Outreach at Cornerstone*



### **Corner Café**

Corner Café was established by Cornerstone Christian Fellowship as an outreach ministry into our local community in late 2020. Since opening we have welcomed people from every walk of life. It continues to amaze us the way the Lord brings people through our doors that are so desperate for healing and relationship. Many of our café volunteers, although yet to welcome Jesus into their lives, have found love and friendship within our café family. Many first time visitors describe the peace they feel when walking through our doors.

***Corner Café Team***

### **Mainly Music**

Cornerstone has just started running Mainly Music each week. The program runs every Thursday morning from 9am onwards during school term. We have seen a great need for a family program in the rural community and are excited to be providing parents and carers a space to connect and participate in an enjoyable and musical morning. The team have been working hard to get things up and running and are excited to kick off this term. We look forward to seeing how this ministry will continue to grow and develop over time.

## Kids Church

Kids Church held a movie night on 24th September. It was a great night with a free BBQ followed by a short movie for the crèche aged kids and then "Clifford the Big Red Dog" for the older kids. It was great to have kids invite along their neighbours and friends from school for an event that people outside of church circles felt very comfortable attending. This was a good way to end the term and connected well with our final session of the *Doors* series, where we learnt that we can choose the door of sharing Jesus. 30 kids registered and many parents and carers stayed too.

The kids then performed their memory verse song on Sunday morning, sharing the key messages from the *Doors* series. Once again it was wonderful to have many of the kids learn the memory verse over the term: ***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do and he will show you which path to take. Proverbs 3:5-6.***

**Beck Matthews**

## Prayer Ministry

Between November 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, Cornerstone is participating in 'Walk the World'. This event, run by Baptist Mission Australia, is an opportunity to join together to walk and pray for God to be at work in our community. We are excited to be a part of this event and are looking forward to committing to this time of prayer with many others in Australia.



## Goodbyes...and lots of Hellos for the Anderson Family

**F**our years ago this month, we packed our family of six up, after nearly 5 years in Sydney it was a mammoth task. Packing our family up again in August felt no less huge. We have lived so much life in Yuendumu and learned so much, leaving was quite hard on all of us.



One of the blessings of this move is that, though the distance between Kalkarindji and Lajamanu and Yuendumu is vast (719kms), they are linked and we will continue to see those we have grown with these last few years. There are many links between, through family connections and church connections.

There were so many emotional waves with going. We have loved and been loved in Yuendumu. There were many goodbyes with tears and embracing. Living alongside people for four years our hearts are entwined with theirs and it was very hard to say good bye.

Four days before our hopeful departure date COVID-19 caught up with us. We all tested positive over the course of a few days and took our turns feeling awful. Our departure and planned farewells were all put on hold and travel reservations were quickly adjusted. After that hiccup, we set our leaving day at the end of August.



We headed out from Yuendumu and drove to Sydney. Over the course of about 9 days, with a long weekend stop in Adelaide to visit the Soulfood Community Cafe family and see some of our family. The kids did so well on the road trip, but we were all very relieved to arrive in Sydney.

We have just until mid-November here visiting churches and catching up with people around NSW.

Thank you so much for your prayers for our family during this time. It has been hard and we are a bit weary. Your prayer support is precious to us. We are looking forward to spending time with so many of you over the next few months!

***Mat and Shannon Anderson***

## *Prayer Points*

- ◆ **Praise God for a safe journey from Yuendumu to Sydney**
- ◆ **Thank God with us for good good-byes to our home and friends**
- ◆ **Ask that God would guide us into the best routine for rest, joy and effectiveness!**
- ◆ **Please pray with us for our Yuendumu friends**
- ◆ **Please continue to pray for the trouble and violence in Yuendumu.**
- ◆ **Pray for our visits to NSW churches.**

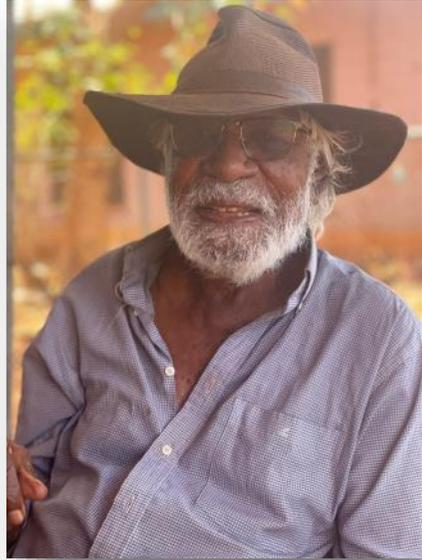


# Yapa and Kardiya .....walking side by side

**I**n the first week of October, Mal and Chris Good, along with Scott Pilgrim the Director of Baptist Mission Australia and Melinda Cousins and Elliot Keane from Baptist Churches SA spent time in Kalkaringi.

It was a privilege to listen to our Indigenous brothers and sisters as they shared openly with us. There is an incredible resilience in our Yapa (Indigenous) brothers and sisters, but they also acknowledge that sometimes life can be overwhelming. Dispossession and decades of unjust practices have taken their toll, and Kardiya (non-indigenous) still have much learning to do as we seek to walk side by side with our Yapa brothers and sisters.

I trust that we all long for an Australia that is a land of opportunity for all people, and that that opportunities for some should not come at the expense of others. One indigenous leader reminded me that progress has been made, but the journey continues.



*Pastor Jerry Jangala, community elder and church leader at Lajamanu*

To walk up the hill that overlooks the town and pray over the community was a special time. To sing, talk and pray together was such a blessing. May we all take time to listen and learn, especially to the voices that have been silenced for so long. And in this space may we hear the Voice of the LORD calling us towards a journey of hopes being realised.

As there was Sorry Time in Lajamanu, we decided to just do a day trip there on the Wednesday. This was also a special time as we tried to tread gently and sensitively, in their time of loss and sadness. It was such an honour to spend time with the church communities.

Please pray for our Yapa churches. Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to be very present and active among them.

As I consider all our churches and the many and varied communities that we are in, (both Yapa and Kardiya), it is good to be reminded of those who have gone before us, are now cheering us on.

### **Mal Good**



*On top of the hill overlooking Kalkaringi*

*Arriving at Lajamanu*



***Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of***

***faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3***

## Praying for the Persecuted Church

***The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does. ... If one part of our body hurts, we hurt all over. If one part of our body is honored, the whole body will be happy." 1 Corinthians 12:12, 26 CEV***

Every month, a group of Christians, from across a number of Darwin churches, joins together to pray for the Persecuted Church. We share prayer points – often from organisations such as Barnabas Fund or Open Doors – and spend time in prayer over each one. Prayer requests may be for individual people, for churches and communities, or even for entire countries.



For some of us, it has been eye-opening to learn of the many different forms that persecution can take and of the challenges that each form of persecution brings to those who experience it.

It really is a privilege to be able to pray for those who are suffering and to ask God to intervene in His sovereign wisdom. It's wonderful, too, to read of God intervening in situations for which we have prayed. Our God is powerful!

The time of prayer encourages us as well, and challenges our own thinking and faith. Though sometimes the situations for which we are praying are gut-wrenching, we are still reminded of the 'big picture' of God's story in the world and the vastness of His Kingdom. As Colossians 1:10 says, '*He is the head over every power and authority*'.

In July, we had the privilege of a visit from **Rudolf van Noppen**, **Mission Coordinator at Barnabas Fund Australia**, and his lovely wife. It was great to hear stories of the work that is taking place in various countries and situations around the world.

Our current venue for the prayer meeting is **Casuarina Baptist Church (44 Dripstone Road, Nakara)**, and we meet on the **first Thursday of every month, at 7:30pm. Come and join us!**

***Priscilla Howard,***  
***on behalf of the group***

## ***A Senior of Excellence Bringing Glory to God***

**O**rdinary People Doing Extra-ordinary Things. This is the motto of the NT Seniors of Excellence Award, held annually in Darwin to recognise the contributions that our older folk make to their communities.

**Cynthia Prime of Katherine Baptist Church** was a recipient this year. Cynthia does not seek the limelight at all, but it is worth noting that Christians are among those recognised by the awards. Her award was for her many contributions to the Katherine community.

Cynthia is a regular volunteer at the High School breakfast program and the Women's Crisis centre. Once a month Cynthia helps coordinate a combined churches breakfast that women from all the Katherine churches attend.

She has recently completed chaplaincy training and together with another lady, visits those in hospital and the nursing home as well as encouraging the staff. When Covid 19 restrictions were lifted, they took morning tea to the staff in hospital wards and local aged care homes as thanks from the community for caring for the sick and elderly during lockdown restrictions.

At the local aged care hostel Cynthia plays the key board for their church services.



*"I love what I do and I want it to bring God glory."*

As well as all the above, Cynthia is a Leader at Katherine Baptist Church. She says, **"I love what I do and I want it to bring God glory."**

She adds, "It was an honour to go to the awards held in Darwin and listen to what was said about each receiver. Truly amazing seniors!"

***Andrea Adams***

# Graduation at Nungalinya College

**I**t was an evening of celebration and fellowship at Nungalinya College, Darwin, when Eddie Robertson from Yuendumu graduated with Certificate 3 in Christian Ministry and Theology.

On September 9, Eddie was one of five students who graduated with this certificate. It was a proud moment for Eddie, his wife, Lottie and friends and family members who were present.

**Mal Sercombe**, representing the NT Baptist Family, presented Eddie with his certificate. Last year, Lottie graduated from the Art and Faith Course.

Please pray for Eddie and Lottie in the significant roles they hold in their church and in the community of Yuendumu as they seek to speak God's peace into people's lives.

**Give thanks for the graduating students from various NT communities and those from interstate**

**Give thanks for Nungalinya College, a place where Indigenous Christians come to grow in their faith and express worship in authentic ways from their hearts, languages and culture.**

**Andrea Adams**

## **My name is Eddie Jampijinpa Robertson**

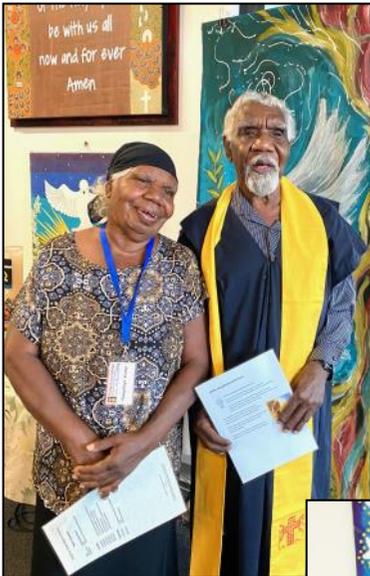
I come from the Warlpiri tribe and live in Yuendumu. I am also a family man with six children and many grandchildren.

I am very involved in my church and help with preaching, singalongs, baptisms, Bible studies, baby dedications and funeral services. I also work with the community.

My experience at Nungalinya has been good. I enjoy learning new words, learning more about other words and understanding Bible stories.

God is calling me to help my people in the church and in my other times that I need to work in the community and help.

I would like to continue my studies by doing a Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology.



**From Top Left:**

- Eddie with Family members
- Mal Sercombe presents Eddie with his Certificate
- Eddie and wife, Lottie
- Eddie with fellow graduating students and Nungalingya staff members



# Baptist Insurance Services

## *'Prevention is better than Cure'*

It is often said that "Prevention is better than Cure".

Or in other words, the cheapest and least disruptive possible insurance claim, is the claim you don't need to make.

'Baptist Insurance Services provides many resources on our website to help our constituents avoid claims.

One of these is a series of on-line training modules available free of charge to BIS constituents which you can use as part of your Church Staff or Volunteer Induction programs, or even just as a regular refresher.

To access these courses just go to our website

**[www.baptistinsurance.com.au](http://www.baptistinsurance.com.au)**

Open the WHS Training menu and you will find **Identifying Hazards and Training Documents**.



The first link provides some PowerPoints you can work through individually or in a group, and the second opens the individual training modules.

Click **Training Documents**. (There are some sample templates here)

Click **Training Login**.

The first time you use this system you will need to click **PIN Registration** and fill out the form to get a PIN and password.

Once you have the PIN and Password, just select the particular course you want to work through. When you have completed the course, you will be automatically sent a Certificate by e-mail to show you have completed it.

**Glen Thornley**  
**BIS State Insurance Manager**  
**SA & NT**  
**0412 055 832**

## **BELONGING PEOPLE ONLINE**

***This issue of Belonging People, as well as past issues, can be found on the BUNT website. [www.ntbaptist.org.au/belonging people/](http://www.ntbaptist.org.au/belonging%20people/)***

## Opportunities to Serve in Remote Indigenous Ministries



**Are you Interested in Aboriginal ministry? Want to join us for 'Transition Training for Remote Indigenous Ministries' mid-January 2023?**

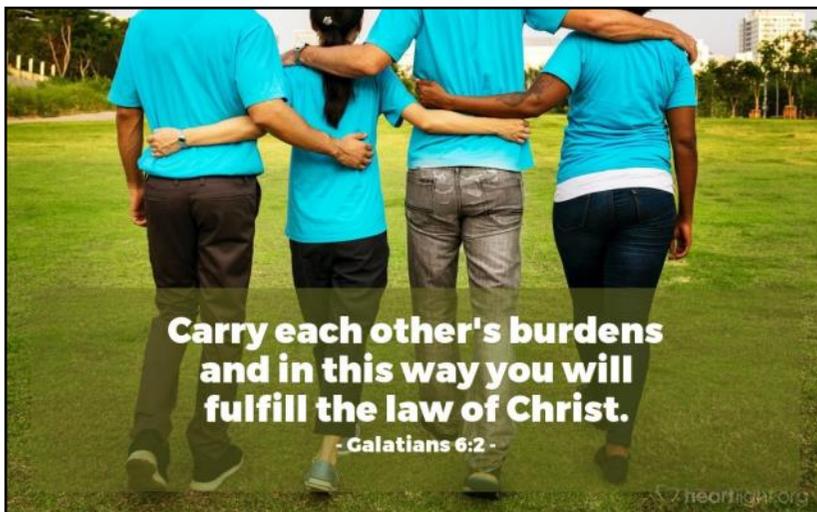
**Previous participants say,**

*".....If you want to take steps toward understanding our Indigenous brothers and sisters, I couldn't recommend this course more as a comprehensive introduction to effective communication and the means to true unity."*

*"A fantastic and insightful week of cultural training, filled with relevant theory and real stories. Highly recommend."*

Search Online for  
**Missions Interlink-T-Trim**  
For more details and registration to come.

**Rachel Borneman**  
MI NT Ministry Leader  
**Missions Interlink**  
M: 0412998594 (Please text)



## SNAIL MAIL OR EMAIL?

For the past few decades we have been mailing *Belonging People* to you through Australia Post. We are aware that some of our readers may prefer to receive an electronic copy. If this is the case, please let the Editor know through the contact details below.

Similarly, if you no longer wish to receive *Belonging People* please advise us. We aim to be careful stewards of God's money.

A decorative border with black floral and vine motifs surrounds the central text box.

*Belonging People*  
Newsletter of the Baptist Union  
of the NT

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