





Banner Image: The Pilbara landscape

Circle Image: The Kyngdons

MIddle Image: Our visitors from Bidyadanga

Bottom Image: Abi with cousin Daniel

Since taking on the role of Volunteer Police chaplain for the Newman police station, Roger has been enormously privileged to visit the station periodically, connecting with officers and offering assistance where necessary.

During one of these visits, Roger was invited to observe some of the officers conducting taser training. Thankfully though, this wasn't hands-on for Roger. A month or so before, there was a critical incident that was traumatising for the officers involved. Roger was able to visit the station soon after and connect with one of the officers.

Please pray for police officers around the country as they serve their communities.

One of the things at church that has gone from strength to strength is the op shop. You may recall from previous newsletters that Linda from the church has done a tremendous job overseeing the op shop and ministering to people as they visit.

Recently, we had a knock on our door from some Aboriginal people visiting from the Bidyadanga community, approximately two hours away from Broome. The Eastern desert communities of the Martu people (who are the custodians of the land in and around Newman) and the people from Bidyadanga have had family links together for thousands of years. So, they often travel between the two places for funerals and other family events.

Amanda's Dad, Peter, used to teach at the school in Bidyadanga while the family lived in Broome in the 1990's. The people who knocked on our door to get some clothes from the op shop were taught by Amanda's Dad and still remembered him from their time at school.

In church recently, we looked at the book of Ruth and then a short series on Psalms. The book of Ruth is such a tremendous lesson for us. Here we have poor Naomi, who has experienced so much grief and loss. We encounter people like this at various times in our lives, and we often have no idea how to begin ministering to and caring for them. Often, the very best thing is to be there for them when called upon and to pray for them. But Naomi is so deep in her grief that she cannot even look up and see what God has blessed her with. Yes, life has been terrible for her, so full of loss. And yet God has blessed her with Ruth. Someone willing to walk away from her family and her god, and commit to her mother-in-law and place her faith in the one true God. As we know, the rest of the book of Ruth is focused on how Ruth's faith and trust in God plays out and how she becomes a vital part of Jesus' family line. So encouraging.

We have been blessed with some great visits from Bishop Darrell Parker, Ray & Lyn Arthur, BCA Nomads, and supporters who travelled from St Matt's Wanniassa in Canberra!! Now, as often happens, many of these visitors arrived within a couple of days of each other. Amid this busyness, we are thankful to have had the opportunity to connect with different people and were also encouraged by their efforts to support us in our work. Bishop Darrell took a 900 km detour out of his way to spend a day with us. We are incredibly thankful for the efforts of so many people.

As you read this, we will just be about to head off on long service leave. The concept of being away from Newman for almost three months doesn't seem to make any sense to us. I suspect it probably won't make sense until we've been away for more than two weeks. Simon Roberts (from Exmouth) said to me that you reach the end of two weeks of leave and realise you have months left, and that's when it hits you.

We are currently in deep preparation mode. Personal preparation for a three-month absence and preparation for the church. All while still running business as usual at church.

We are very thankful for Roger's Dad, Geoff, who is coming over from NSW to run the church and look after the house while we are away. It's a massive commitment for him to do that, so please be in prayer for him. We are very thankful to have Roger's nephew, Daniel, in town, who will also be

able to support Geoff and make sure he doesn't get lonely.

Pray for Geoff as he cares for the church and shares the Good News of Jesus with the congregation each week. Pray he will settle into Newman life well and give thanks for Daniel as he supports him.

One of the things we aimed to do in recent months, as we prepared, was to ensure that rosters were all set up so that Geoff wouldn't have to sort them out when he arrived. We have been able to encourage and prepare a few new faces to join the Kids' Church teaching roster, including Roger's nephew Daniel. There's much to be thankful for, especially as we know many of you have been praying for more Kids' Church teachers.

Pray for those who are stepping up and volunteering while we are away, and for more people to join the church during our absence.

As we head into this extended period away from Newman, please pray for safety during travel, relaxation and refreshment. Pray for open eyes and ears as we take in the beauty of God's creation that Australia has to offer and for good times with fellow NW workers, BCA Field Staff and friends we haven't seen for a very long time. Pray also for the kids as they adjust to (read, thoroughly enjoy) not being at school for a





whole term. And pray that we will all settle back into everyday life when we return in early October.

Thank you to all our supporters across the country. It is such a privilege to have you walking alongside us in our ministry in Newman as we seek to point more people to their need for forgiveness and trust in Jesus.

Love from

Roger, Amanda, Ada, Eliza, Ben, Emily & Abigail

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