

Territory Matters

Celebrating 10 years 2008-2018 (November)



We give thanks to God for his ongoing faithfulness in so many ways! We continue to thank God for your partnership as BCA approves another two years of ministry proclaiming the good news of salvation and hope through Jesus to the NT.

Family

Birthday celebrations, visits and school endings.

In August, Oliver kicked off Chapman birthday season with his 12th birthday. This was followed soon after by Bruce turning 50 – sparking six weeks of various parties and celebrations. One of those parties included the visit of Bruce's parents and three brothers to Darwin for a joint birthday meal with Laura on her 16th birthday. Finally, Felicity turned 14 on 7 November.

There have also been visits away from Darwin and visitors to Darwin. In August, Bruce's parents visited him while he stayed with the SANT BCA Regional Officer Steve & Lyn Davis for treatment in Adelaide. Bruce also had a surprise visit from his good friend Caroline who also visited Darwin in October. Jodi was able to travel to Woolgoolga (BCA Reeves) for a wedding in August and to visit her parents for their wedding anniversary in October.

Spot
Maggie Beer



As I write this, Matthew has just finished school with his final year 12 exams. At the other end Oliver is in his final weeks of primary school. In

2019, Matthew is hoping to continue study at university (possibly in Sydney).

Please give thanks for

- *Jodi being able to attend Annette & Neil's wedding and visit her parents for their wedding anniversary.*
- *the joy of visits from friends and family.*
- *the opportunity for family fun celebrating birthdays.*

Please pray

- *that Matthew will entrust his future to God and that whatever he does he will seek to faithfully serve his saviour and Lord.*

BCA

We are very thankful to BCA for renewing our contract until the end of 2020 in partnership with the NT Diocese and St Peter's Nightcliff.



We were very glad to meet a BCA bus tour in Darwin. After sharing stories as we toured Nungalinga College we then enjoyed a sunset harbour cruise. In the following week I was very thankful for the opportunity to meet a number of BCA supporters in Adelaide during my August treatment. It was also a great joy to work with Steve and Debbie in the BCA SANT office. Steve and Lyn visited Darwin from 17-24 November.

For those who use the BCA prayer notes you will notice many Field Staff giving thanks for the BCA Conference in October. It is an immense

privilege for the Field Staff to gather together from all over Australia for mutual encouragement and fellowship every two years. I travelled to Melbourne with Oliver, Felicity and Laura as Jodi stayed with Matthew in Darwin to study for year 12 exams. I particularly enjoyed meeting new BCA staff as well as catching up with a number of families who started around the same time as us 10+ years ago. The children had a great time and were wonderfully served in the youth and children's programs.

Please give thanks for

- *the ongoing support of BCA for another two years.*
- *refreshment and encouragement with wonderful teaching at the BCA conference.*
- *the BCA SANT office and the wonderful support that Steve and Debbie provide for us in the field.*
- *all the wonderful BCA supporters partnering in ministry with us.*

Please pray for

- *the ministry of BCA to continue to grow as we seek to reach Australia for Christ. Pray that the 100th anniversary in May 2019 may be a catalyst for more people to know Jesus' saving love.*

St Peter's Nightcliff

While I was in Adelaide the rest of the family enjoyed the St Peter's Nightcliff church camp just south of Darwin. They were treated to great family fun and teaching from Rory Shiner on how Jesus' death on the cross impacts our lives.

St Peter's also hosted a marriage enrichment course in September which Jodi and I found very helpful and were very thankful to attend.

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November 2018



October saw St Peter's inaugural MEGA holiday Kids' Club with around 80 attending across the week of school holidays. Oliver was able to attend, while Laura, Felicity, Jodi and Bruce helped out in various leadership roles. I was particularly excited to see Laura and Felicity take on large responsibilities over the week. A weekly Friday kids' club called FRESH has commenced for term 4 and beyond.

Pete's youth which meets on Friday nights has been a great encouragement in the second half of the year. Firstly, Bel, Joseph and Mel have all stepped up as leaders especially when I was away for a big part of term 3. The senior youth have been great at looking after and discipling the younger youth. Since the start of term 4 our consistent numbers have been steadily rising. Partly this is due to our commitment to invite year 6 to attend in term 4, but we have also had



a number of other visitors, which has been encouraging. Finally, both leaders and youth have been challenged by God's word as we looked at the Old Testament background for what Jesus achieved

on the cross (following on from church camp) in term 3. This term we have gone back to basics thinking about grace, faith, the Bible, prayer, church and godly living.

Please give thanks for

- *our faithful St Peter's family who continue to care for us.*
- *the youth growing in their faith.*
- *the new children's ministry at St Peter's and the opportunity for Laura and Felicity to grow ministry skills.*

NT Diocese

Even with medical appointments and time away for treatment I was still able to participate in some important NT Diocese events.

At the beginning of August before heading down to Adelaide, I was able to make the trip out to Gunbalanya for the launch of the Kunwinjku New Testament – a great celebration.



I joined in the Diocesan Partnership Conference (including Ted Brush – NSW Regional Officer). This was a great opportunity to develop further the great partnerships that are so necessary for ministry to both continue and grow in the NT.

At the end of October, I visited Ngukurr for a safe ministry workshop. However, the visit was so much more than we originally planned. The weekend



After returning from Adelaide in mid-September,



before our visit there had been two car accidents with a fatality and two other young men in critical condition in Darwin hospital. Community tensions and grief were running high when we arrived on Saturday. After the training all day on Sunday the church decided to meet at their fellowship ground. Around 40 people gathered and five young women who had been preparing were baptised. After this, we joined in a Holy Communion service together. It was a great time of thanksgiving to God and joy in the midst of suffering.



Finally, I continue to be involved in the safe ministry for the Diocese both in training and also at a policy and legislation level. We are now seeing the fruit of this important work as people feel safe to voice their concerns and we have procedures in place to deal with both perpetrators and those harmed.

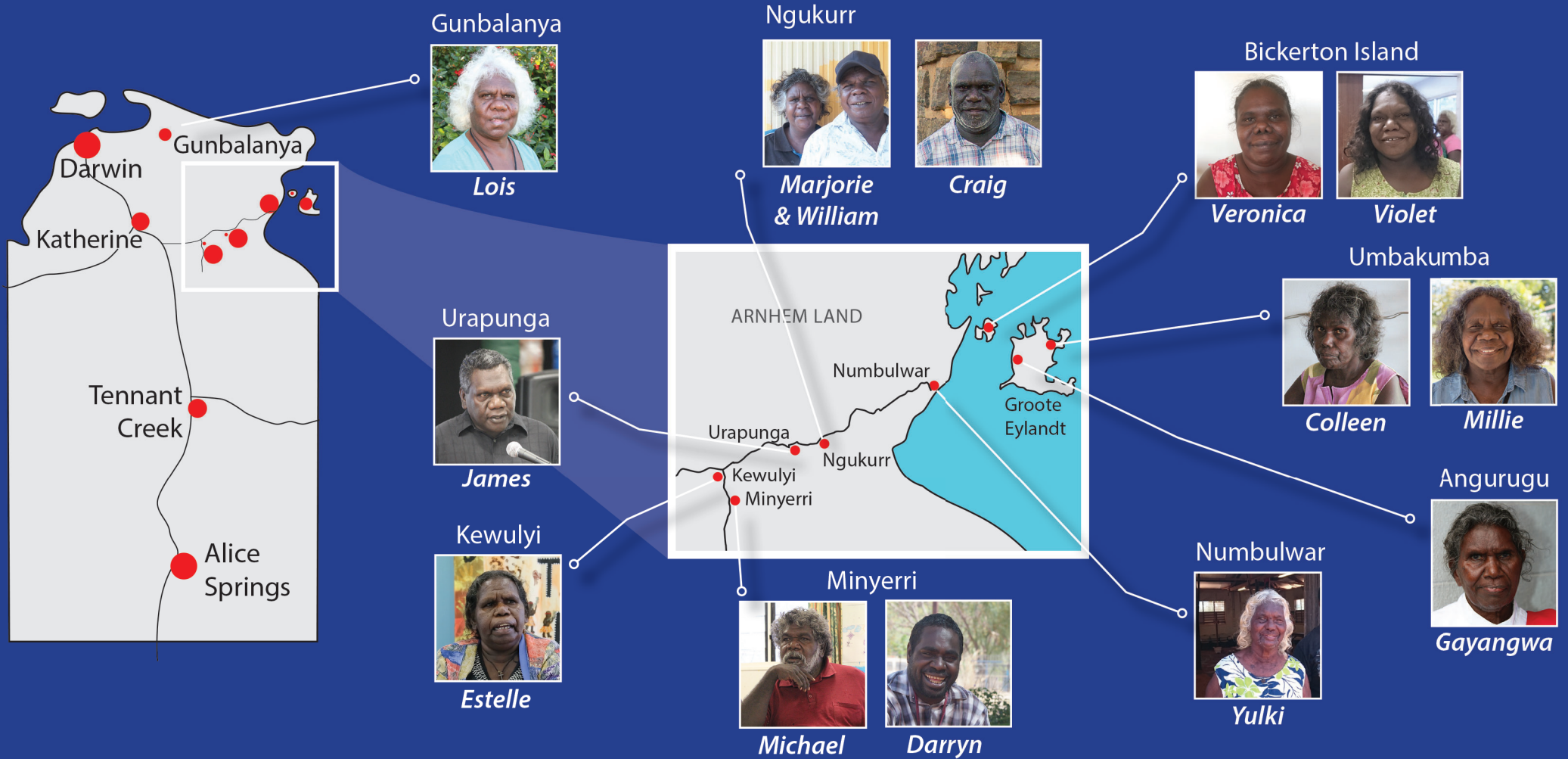
Please give thanks for

- *God's continued grace to our Aboriginal brothers and sisters and for their perseverance in difficult situations.*
- *the Kunwinjku New Testament and pray that people might hear God's word in their own language and turn to Jesus in repentance and faith.*

- *God's love for all people and especially those who are vulnerable or need special care.*

Please pray

- *for wisdom as I work out what my Diocesan work will look like in 2019.*
- *for our Aboriginal leaders to continue to trust in God and to persevere.*



PRAYER FOR REMOTE ANGLICAN CHURCH LEADERS IN THE NT:

- that each leader would continue to be faithful in their ministry proclaiming Jesus.
- that God would mature the Christians in their care, both young and old.
- that the Christians would share the gospel boldly and be a light to their community.
- for new leaders, both men and women, to rise up in each place.
- for the health of each leader and their communities.
- that the Ministry Development Team of the Diocese would be effective in equipping leaders and facilitating new resources.