

Piper Prayer Page

with David & Joanne Piper • July 2025 (no. 74)



We've just finished eight weeks of the Alpha course, run on Sunday evenings, as part of the Australia-wide HOPE25 outreach in Anglican churches. It was encouraging to see church people really support the course, work together to make it happen, and invite friends and family.

I was encouraged to hear about some of the invitations made. Those who attended had previous church connections, but found that the evenings helped them connect on a deeper level.

As one person said in feedback, *'it opened my eyes to answers to certain questions I've been asking myself about life.'* Another said that the course discussions helped her reconnect with the church.

Give thanks, and please pray that these individuals continue to be engaged with our church.

There is interest in continuing to meet on Sunday evenings. **So please pray as we start planning nights to consider if, when, and in what form, to have an evening outreach to Emerald.**

In the last newsletter, we said we'd introduce Blackwater:

From previous parishes, I (David) am accustomed to branch churches being in small villages, but Blackwater is not that! It is a town of almost 5000, with its own Woolworths, high school, and two primary schools.

It is primarily a coal mining town. There are a lot of fly-in fly-out (FIFO) workers, but still a lot (at least one-third) of people live here long term.

On the church scene, there is a Catholic church, a Pentecostal church (Calvary Network), and a Uniting Church. There used to be an Anglican church building and residence, but it was sold a few years ago. We currently meet in the Uniting Church building, an arrangement that works well.



Blackwater has been hard work! The numbers are small, and it's been a challenge to encourage people to attend regularly. However, I think we're making progress and getting to know people.

Give thanks with us for our recent winter firepit night, which was a great time developing relationships and also meeting some potential new members.

Please pray for some avenues we are exploring to grow our community contact, including

Banner Image: St Luke's Emerald

Circle Image: The Piper Family

Middle & Bottom Images: Scenes from the Alpha course



My first CQ Clergy Conference

Continued from previous page...

possibly:

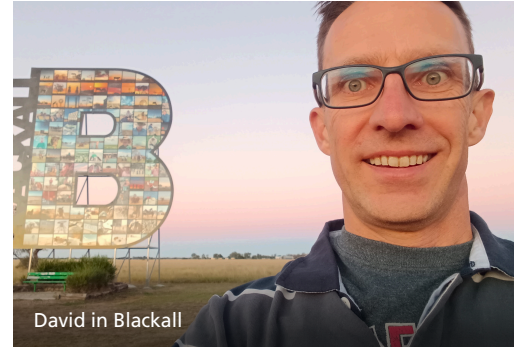
- Religious Instruction next year.
- An after-school running club.
- Door-knocking.

I loved getting to know the clergy team here in the Diocese of Central Queensland at my first clergy conference. The Rev. Beth was an excellent host in Blackall. There are several other new faces too, and it's exciting to see what God is doing here!

In May, we had a great time with two BCA Nomad couples. I was pleased to see church members and Nomads join together in cleaning, painting, pruning, and planting, along with fellowship shared over morning tea and prayer.

Winter is a beautiful time of year in Emerald, and BCA Nomads are welcome to give us a call if you're interested in visiting!

I loved getting to know the clergy team here in Central Queensland diocese at my first clergy conference



David in Blackall



Morning Tea with the BCA Nomads

Love from,

David, Joanne, Daniel, Luke & Matthew

Find out more

about Bush Church Aid who support us in Emerald & Blackwater

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