



September 2023

### Family

Life this year has brought many changes. Natalie started her new BCA-funded role working for the Anglican Diocese of the Northern Territory as part-time Women's Pastoral Ministry Worker. Matthew has been working hard in Year 12, enjoying 18th birthday parties and making decisions about next year. Luke started Senior School (Yr10) and is getting stuck into aquaculture. Jesse started a traineeship in IT, studying at TAFE and working full-time. Isabel started Middle School (Yr7) and continues to love dancing and drama. Jim continues to train carpentry apprentices at TAFE. Give thanks for how God continually sustains us and pray that He continues to help us to grow in Him each day.



### Prison

Some weeks Natalie helps lead a Bible study in the women's sector at the prison. Rosemary Snibson (CMS) and Pam Daams (SIL) have been faithfully leading this for a couple of years. There are lots of challenges and sometimes we arrive only to be informed that there is a shutdown, and we can't enter that day. The group is different each week, numbers fluctuate and there is diversity in knowledge of God, as well as English comprehension. But faithful, long-term visits have shown fruit. Women come eagerly and some regularly. They are especially keen for prayer, and we learn about God from his word together. Sometimes we sing songs of praise that women have learned growing up. Please pray that our Christian sisters in prison will be sustained by the Holy Spirit and stand firm in all circumstances.



BCA family and office mates - Natalie shares an office with Naomi Ireland

### Trauma healing

Natalie has started her journey of being equipped to help others by participating in a Bible-based trauma healing group with other local ladies. The International Trauma Healing Institute Program was



facilitated locally by Pam and Rosemary. It was a rich shared experience, learning from God's word and bearing one another's burdens. It has also run at the prison. Hopefully, Natalie will work towards becoming a facilitator. Please pray for the ongoing healing of all those involved in the program.

### Visit to Ngukurr Community

One of the challenges in Natalie's role is getting to know people in our parishes, because of the distances and remoteness of some of our churches. Give thanks that Natalie and Naomi Ireland were able to join friends on a day trip to Ngukurr. It was a great opportunity for Natalie to get to know our church family there.

### Diocesan Workers and Family Conference

It was a privilege for Natalie and Isabel to go along to the five-day conference at Riyala campsite near Darwin. With such a spread-out Diocese, this was a great opportunity to catch up with dear friends and meet new ones, including other NT BCA Field Staff. There was a great children's program for Isabel run by volunteers from CMS Victoria with loads of fun and growing in Jesus. The adults were taught from Mark 8–10. It was humbling and inspiring to hear how the disciples journeyed to a fuller and fuller understanding of who Jesus is – God's chosen King.

One of our older clergy from a remote community needed to have an overnight stay in hospital during the conference and Natalie was able to stay with her and support her until it was time to go home. Praise God that she received the medical care she needed and that they got to know each other through this trial. Please pray for continued health and strength for our older clergy, and wisdom as roles are passed on.

### Church

Jim, Nat, Luke, and Isabel went to our church camp in June at Mount Bundy Station. It's 1½ hours inland but we still needed to keep a respectful distance from the Adelaide River to avoid the crocs. The weather was beautiful with breezes whispering into the cool shade, quite a contrast to other times of the year when the heat is smothering. We studied miracles from Mark's gospel with all ages together which included some fun to keep us following along. Joyfully, we discovered some hidden talents amongst our congregation.

Nat teaches Sunday School. Jim leads a young men's Bible Study. Jesse leads a youth group at the Baptist church.

All blessings in Christ Jesus,

*Natalie, Jim, Jesse, Matthew, Luke & Isabel*

Natalie's ministry in the Top End is supported by [Bush Church Aid](#)  
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