

Carnarvon Together!

with Mike & Emma Welham • July 2025



You never know what might happen when you bump into people on the foreshore in Carnarvon. Mike was at the foreshore with the kids, and while they were playing in the playground, he met a young couple from Germany who were new parents. As their son played in the sand, they talked about their travels and what they had seen. Once they found out Mike was a minister, they shared how they were atheists who had never considered the need for any religion. Mike offered to buy them a coffee, and as they sat together, he explained the Gospel to them for the first time.

Praise God! While they maintained that their perspective on religion remained the same, they appreciated gaining a deeper understanding of the central message of Christianity.

As a church, we have been working our way through Paul's letter to the Ephesians. It's been wonderful exploring the spiritual blessings believers received in Christ, and how God planned it all along, to the praise of His glorious grace!

Ephesians has also been the focus of our Friday night Bible study, where we have enjoyed food, meaningful discussions and a deeper understanding of the grace God has poured out on us in Christ.

We have had a couple of our church members go through some serious health issues, and others have been going through some hard times. It remains a privilege to share and pray together in this group and at church on Sundays.

In Shark Bay, former Carnarvon minister Bryan Fyffe and his wife Anni have been staying for a couple of months, running weekly services. This has meant we have

remained in Carnarvon for this time. Another minister is coming to stay in July, so we aren't scheduled to visit the Shark Bay parish again until August (which we are very much looking forward to!).

In July, Mike travelled to Geraldton for the quarterly 'Mid-West Archdeaconry Clergy Day Together'. It was a great time catching up with many old friends, and Mike left feeling very refreshed and thankful.

As it happened, a member of the Shark Bay parish had been admitted to hospital in Geraldton, so Mike was able to visit him personally on the same day he happened to be in town.

Emma has picked up a third day of chaplaincy through Youth Care in Carnarvon. She now spends one day a week at Carnarvon Christian School. This all came about quite quickly, and it was evident that God was in the process!

Emma is thriving in her chaplaincy role and is forming positive connections with students, staff and parents at the Christian school and at Carnarvon Community

Banner Image: Carnarvon foreshore

Circle Image: The Welham family

Middle Image: Carnarvon Fascine with bridge

Bottom Image: Bible Study

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College. Emma has been able to support the Bible lessons happening at the Christian School while the usual person is away from town.

Both Emma & Mike are grateful to God for this unique opportunity.

Our kids, Zac, Ollie and Eliza, continue to enjoy life in Carnarvon. They have been part of the Lego Club at the local library, enjoyed the beach, and Zac has taken an interest in magnet fishing. So far, he has pulled two bikes out of the water at the foreshore and a big sheet of temporary fencing (we had to call the council for that!).

Mike takes the kids to Carnarvon Christian School each Thursday to cook the weekly sausage sizzle (as there is no operating canteen). The kids now do all the cooking and serving, while Mike prepares barista-style coffee for the staff. This has led to some great conversations with staff. Mike is also working with the school to implement a whole-school Bible curriculum, and plans are being made for Mike to run professional development for the staff.

It's tourist season in Carnarvon, and it has been encouraging to have visitors join us and share in singing, Bible teaching, prayer, and fellowship. We have received warm feedback from them and have even had repeat visitors as

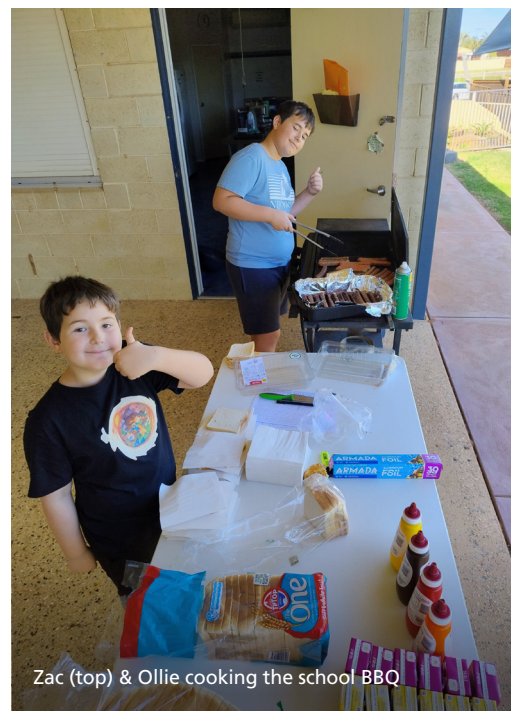
Mike is working with the school to implement a whole-school Bible curriculum...

they make their way back down the coast!

August will be a very busy month. Mike will be in Perth for a pastor's conference, then we have the previously mentioned return to Shark Bay.

Geraldton Christian College will be visiting Carnarvon with a large group of Year 10 students for their annual *Service Week*. Many plans are being made, including a special church service, a Q&A session with local pastors and a lot of gardening and odd jobs.

All this being said, we are so encouraged to see what God is doing here in Carnarvon in the lives of so many people. We are so grateful for your support, as you help us go the distance for Christ here in Carnarvon!



Zac (top) & Ollie cooking the school BBQ



Family fishing

With love from
Mike, Emma, Zac, Ollie & Eliza

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