

in Coober Pedy, SA

with Dave & Margie Wood • May 2025





Banner Image: Kanku-Breakaways National Park

Circle Image: Dave & Margie

MIddle Image: Our first Kids' Club

Bottom Image: Easter Sunday Outdoor Dawn Service

We had the great joy of seeing some long-term members of the church community return to church. We get a sense of the importance of preaching Biblically-based messages to both instruct and build up the body of Christ. Serving the flock every week is so special and a testimony to the wider community.

Give thanks and praise that some people from town are coming back to church. Please pray this will continue and that they will invest in our church community.

As the heat dissipates and the lovely autumn weather rolls in, we restarted our twice-a-week dropins at the school and were touched that we were 'missed' and the kids had been asking when we would get back. The Kids' Club that we have prayed for and planned on started on 1 May and we had an incredible answer to prayer with nine kids and two adult volunteers to help (wonderful visiting friends of ours). God is so good, making all this happen.

Give thanks for our first Kids' Club after school, and for the good number of kids who came and for their keenness to hear from God's Word. Please continue to pray for this Kids'Club ministry; for helpers for us; for energy and that a good regular group of kids will attend.

Margie has restarted the ladies weekly Bible group, and is excited when out of towners join in.

She is also slowly trying to assist with a suicide prevention group here in town, again, not enough invested people to help out, but that is no reason not to try. Our role as a ministry couple gives us a unique opportunity to join this and other similar groups.

We continue to be involved in a 'few' things. Dave has switched from CFS to SES...long story, but still great opportunities to be the God guy within the crew. Interesting point, a few members are ex-youth group members from many years ago, when they were young and single.



Easter Sunday at the Catacomb Church

Our Pastor's breakfast has grown into a supportive group of faith leaders in town that can uphold in prayer each others needs and urgent requests. We are currently praying for one of the Pastors, who will have to step aside from ministry, and our prayer is that God would send the right man/ woman to fill this vacancy.

Another great thing is the Aboriginal ministry has sprung into life. We had a pray and watch attitude last year. This year we are part of a Monday night praise and fellowship time, led by the

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Aboriginal believers in town, where Dave gives a quick talk from the Bible. There is a hope and prayer that this will turn into something bigger for the Umoona community and for the town.

Give thanks for the weekly Umoona Aboriginal Praise and Worship nights, and pray for wisdom for Dave as he shares from God's Word.

God has blessed us with the Good News for Coober Pedy radio show. Dave has done two shows to date. It's broadcast on Wednesday and Sunday nights at 6pm. People are starting to listen to the great Christian music and message as well. It goes for approximately 50 minutes and is a wonderful outreach to Coober Pedy.

We recently had a once in a lifetime experience of having our daughter Heidi preach at the Catacomb Church. Heidi studied at SMBC at the same time as us (the one with the better marks!) So, imagine Dave's joy interviewing her on Sunday before she preached. God is good (have I said that before!)

Margie has started a part time job as an eco-guide for the Ghan train twice a week (Monday/Friday). This is good for some separation for Margie as the ministry is very full on and there are few options for 'something else time'. Both of us have volunteered to help with the Drive-in committee, which means we help at the gate (no explosives to be brought into the Drive – in...an old sign from the wild west days) or we serve in the Canteen, here's a tip, only volunteer for good films, it's a long night otherwise.

We ask for prayer for the many relationships that we have developed across town, that God will give us opportunities for deeper conversations where we can tell them about Jesus.

> Thank you so much for praying for this ministry, we have zero chance of it succeeding without God's agency and your prayer support

We had a fantastic break over summer (Jan/Feb) spent with all four kids and the six grandkids, and also a month long holiday. As we were driving back late in February, we had a real sense of returning to our home and an eagerness to get back! However, we're sorry for the lateness of this newsletter.

Again, thank you so much for praying for this ministry, we have zero chance of it succeeding without God's agency and your prayer support. I also want to mention the partnership between the Diocese of Willochra (SA) and BCA and the ongoing backing that provides for us.





With love, and in His service, *Dave をMargie*

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