



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

TRANSFORMATION AND FLOURISHING

REV. DAVID RIETVELD

Previously, I have reflected on how flourishing, or thriving, is a concept and a metaphor that now dominates our thinking about the purpose of human existence. Our purpose is (or we have been designed by God) to flourish. Metaphors entail assumptions – they sneak in presuppositions.

So, when we talk about thriving and flourishing, we draw from agricultural metaphors. Plants are things that grow all by themselves. Plants have within themselves the resources and capacity to draw on the nutrients and resources around them and utilise these to grow and reach their full potential. A tube stock, given sun, water, warmth, and nutrients, can become a substantial tree.

There is a second assumption buried deep inside the concept of thriving. An apple seed thrives by becoming an apple tree – whereas an orange seed thrives to become an orange tree. Flourishing is about becoming a bigger and better version of what already is. Thriving is about realising the existing potential I have inside me. Some Christians imagine that God's role is to provide the sun, water, warmth and nutrients that I need to grow so that I can achieve my God-given potential.

Now let's read Ephesians 2:22-24: "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

Paul is talking about transformation. Growth entails putting off something old, corrupted, deceitful desires – something that enslaves and leads to death (Rom 6:6). The old self is to be cut out and replaced with something new from the outside. This new self is not always natural or innate but rather comes from God and causes us to become more and more like someone else – Jesus.

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Paul is talking about a type of transformation that is different from – perhaps even the opposite of thriving and flourishing. Not everything inside us is good. Not every desire ought to be nurtured. Parts of us are selfish, greedy, and just plain nasty. Some of the good things we need to become do not originate naturally inside us.

Before you try to offer encouragement by telling a younger person they can thrive, think about what you are saying and what they might be hearing before you mouth those words.

Fun-Filled Adventure Days

Two more adventure-filled days have come and gone, and it's been a joy to see our church family come together in such a wonderful way. Let's take a quick look at these memorable outings.

Week One: Stuart Park Picnic

The sun was on our side as we gathered at Stuart Park for a delightful picnic. Families enjoyed good food and quality time as the kids ran wild, playing on the equipment and zipping around on their scooters. It was a perfect day for bonding and getting to know each other beyond our Sunday gatherings.

Week Two: Kiama Train Trip

Our second adventure took us on an unforgettable Kiama Train Trip. We were fortunate to partner with the preschool, and Vicki and her team joined us, along with 12 preschool families. We shared a train journey with laughter and picturesque views, explored the Blow hole, and had a picnic with fun games thanks to the Preschool team. We're excited about the connections we made and look forward to more adventures together.





NEXT STEPS

Book Now

Our Next Steps Dinner is coming up on the 31st of October from 6pm. This dinner is an opportunity for us to gather, share a meal, and hear from Rev David Rietveld and the DAC Staff team about our Next Steps as a Church, and how you can partner with us to grow God's kingdom. Gather your friends, your Bible Study and your family members as we look at what it looks like to be disciples. Book your tickets here (family tickets also available).



CONNECT KIDS



TERM 4

THE CITY
YOUTH

CONNECT FRIDAYS

4:00pm - 5:30pm
\$5.00 per child
Max \$10 Family

Preschoolers starting Kindergarten can join Connect Fridays this term.

FRIDAY YOUTH

Juniors - 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Seniors - 7:00pm till 9:30pm
\$5.00 per child

Year 5 are welcome to join Juniors from the 24th of November.

Dapto Schools Scripture Board

Dessert Night

Monday 23rd October
From 7pm, in the Foyer
\$15 Per Person



Creative People, Awesome God

What a wonderful experience it was to watch so many people from our community and further, come along and enjoy the arts, crafts and quilts made by the members of DAC's Creative Connection. It was a great opportunity to showcase our church and experience God's blessings of creativity and friendships.

- Wendy and Lynne



Worship Night is Tonight!



Our Worship Night is on tonight, the 12th of October! Why don't you join us as we sing our praises to our God and come to Him in prayer? It's going to be awesome! We will see you from 7:30pm in the Main Hall (at the Ministry Centre).

1 Chronicles 16:8-11 ~ ⁸ Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. ⁹ Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. ¹⁰ Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. ¹¹ Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Prayer based on 2 Cor. 5:18-19 and with the Referendum in mind (whatever the outcome)

Lord God, thank you that you have given to your Church the ministry of reconciliation, and made us Ambassadors for Christ in this world. We pray that your people will always be faithful in sharing the Gospel of Jesus, the only means through which people can be reconciled to you. Draw people to yourself and also bring reconciliation among Christians of different backgrounds and histories. We pray that we will be agents of reconciliation in our land. So may your Church be built up and grow to unity in the faith. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Safe Ministry

Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help.

Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

MOURNING

Please pray for the family and friends of Glad A (8am/2pm) as they mourn her death and celebrate her life at St Luke's, Brownsville. The funeral will be held tomorrow at 12pm. Please pray for Genie C (8am/2pm) following the death of her brother, John, on Tuesday. She is thankful for the prayers. Please pray for Mavis V (8am/2pm) following the death of her brother, Ronald, on Monday.

HOSPITAL

Please pray for Michael V (10am) who is recovering in Prince of Wales Private Hospital after surgery. Pray for peace and healing. Please continue to pray for Trish G (10am) recovering from a broken hip.

EXPECTANT PARENTS

Tara and Nathan O; Lisa and Matt G.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please continue to pray for our people in Residential Care Homes: Jean W, Kath H, Phyllis D, Audrey & Alan R, Gae & Allen Q, Elsie N, Barbara L, Pamela B, Gordon M, Beth W (Piper House, Dapto); Robyn K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H, Trevor W (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Wendy C (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong); Brian B (William Beach Gardens, Dapto).

8AM / WED 2PM

Please continue to pray for Wal S for continued healing following his surgery. Continue to pray for Mavis B who has been struggling with Pneumonia. Continue to pray for Darryl N recovering at home.

10AM

Please be praying for a safe surgery and recovery for Roman J as he is scheduled to have surgery on his spine this week. Please continue to pray for Pat McK's friend, Jan J, who will be having radiotherapy and chemo. Also pray for Andrew W as he continues with his treatment. Continue to pray for Phillip P as he struggles with his health. Pray for Janice S as she waits to have surgery.

6PM

Please be praying for all the people who are close to graduating in the next few weeks, or have recently graduated. Praise God!

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Please pray for Lynne N's brother, Stephen, as he is having his Targeted Chemo adjusted. Also, keep praying for Lynne N as she has treatment for her Crohn's disease.



PRAY WITH US HSC 2023

Monday 9th October		Tuesday 10th October	Wednesday 11th October	Thursday 12th October	Friday 13th October
			English Paper 1 (am) Phoebe Kyah Kimmy Jovi Wes Nathan Tom James	English Paper 2 (am) Phoebe Kyah Kimmy Jovi Wes Nathan Tom James	Music 1 (pm) Phoebe
					Modern History (pm) Kyah Jovi Nathan James
16 October		17 October	18 October	19 October	20 October
Maths Advanced (am) Kyah Nathan James	Maths Extension 2 (pm) Wes	Visual Arts (pm) Phoebe Tom		Society and Culture (pm) Kyah Kimmy	Ancient History (am) Phoebe Jovi Tom
Maths Standard 1 (am) Phoebe					Maths Extension 1 (pm) Nathan Wes
Maths Standard 2 (am) Jovi Tom					
23 October		24 October	25 October	26 October	27 October
Biology (am) Kyah		Business Studies (am) Jovi Nathan	History Extension (am) James		Chemistry (am) Wes James
					Multimedia (pm) Tom
30 October		31 October	1 November	2 November	3 November
		Community and Family Studies (am) Kimmy	Geography (am) James	Physics (am) Nathan Wes	