



# WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

## PAUL'S PRAYERS

REV. DAVID RIETVELD

We have just finished the book of 1 Thessalonians at our 10am service. Paul's letters are weaved, if not structured, around his prayers for the church he is writing to. The content of his prayers is astonishing.

OFFICE PHONE - 4261 1001

[WWW.DAPTO.CHURCH](http://WWW.DAPTO.CHURCH)

[OFFICE@DAPTOANGLICAN.ORG.AU](mailto:OFFICE@DAPTOANGLICAN.ORG.AU)

PO BOX 25, DAPTO NSW 2530

The churches are often suffering, or in difficult situations, but never does Paul pray that God might change their circumstances. Never does he pray that this ruler might be overthrown and replaced with a kind one.

As this insight dawns on me, I can't help but contrast it with my prayers, and the public prayers I hear at church and elsewhere. Our prayers are commonly to heal this person, stop that wrongdoing, remove this injustice, and open a door. Whereas Paul's prayers tend to thank God for what he is doing in these people, and please help them to know you more deeply - to see what you are doing in their life.

There appears to be two differing sets of assumptions. Our prayers assume that our wellbeing has to do with our external circumstances, and how we imagine things ought to be so we can thrive. God's place is to restrain evil and suffering, so we can get on with living life and serving him.

Paul does not seem to share those assumptions. Not that such prayers are wrong. Paul prays that his thorn in the flesh be removed. Jesus teaches his disciples to ask for their daily bread. But without goading, we risk becoming content and comfortable.

Paul's prayers reveal an assumption that when our internal predisposition is Godward, and we seek to understand his purposes, we can perceive how both external blessings and trials are tools God uses to transform us and bring glory to himself.

I invite you to pause, check the content, and then question your prayer life's assumptions. If they appear non-aligned with the biblical prayers of Paul, why not print out some of his prayers, and use them as bookends around your personal prayers for a season.



# 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).



## Worship Night

Thank you to all those who came to our latest Worship Night. It was a beautiful evening filled with praise and prayer to our great God! Thanks to those who volunteered their gifts and time to make this happen.



## DSSB Dessert Night

Join us for a sweet evening hosted by the Dapto Schools Scripture Board! Indulge in delicious desserts and a hot drink of your choice on Monday, October 23rd, at 7pm in the Foyer of Dapto Anglican Church. The cost is \$15 per person and all for a great cause! See you there as we support Scripture in our High Schools.



# The Best is Yet to Come: Oberon Trip

Thirty-four seniors from Dapto Anglican Church, the Retirement Village and the community joined together for a very enjoyable three day tour of Oberon and environs in almost perfect weather (10th to 12th of October).

After morning tea at Glenbrook on the first day, we stopped at the Lolly Bug to stock up on sugar treats, and proceeded to Hartley for a guided tour of the court house, the church, and the rectory.

Our accommodation for the trip was the very comfortable Big Trout Motel at Oberon, where our fellowship was enhanced by the great meals and friendly staff.

The following morning was spent at the Mayfield Gardens, the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, and in the afternoon we visited the Tractor Orphanage, the Oberon Museum, and the Oberon dam.

On the final day, we travelled to Echo Point for coffee and refreshments, and then to Penrith R.S.L. for lunch. Although participants were fewer in number this year, the tour was voted an absolute success by all.

*Nev and Carol Stumbles*



## 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](mailto:safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au) or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



# PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

For morning light and the gift of a new day,  
we praise you, our heavenly Father;  
and with thankful hearts we now entrust ourselves  
and those we love into your hands,  
praying that you will help us,  
guide us, and keep us  
in all that lies before us this day;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### MOURNING

Please pray for Jim B, Sarah & Jonathon M, and family (6pm) following the death of Marie (Jim's mother-in-law). Please pray for the family of Gail R (8am) following her death last week. Continue to pray for the family of the late Gladys A, and also continue to pray for Genie C (8am) following the death of her brother, and also Mavis V (8am) following the death of her brother.

### 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, Betty B (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 pray for Phil W as he recovers from surgery to his leg; Also please continue to pray for Wal S for good recovery, and Mavis B who has been struggling with Pneumonia.

### 10AM

Please continue to pray for Michael V following his heart surgery; Also continue to pray for Trish G following her surgery; Also continue to pray for Shaina's son, Roman, following his spinal surgery; Also please continue to pray for Pat McK's friend, Jan J; and Andrew W as he continues with his treatment; and for Phillip P as he continues to struggle with his health; and also 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 and has been unwell. Also, keep praying for Lynne N as she has treatment for her Crohn's disease.