

MINISTRY REFLECTIONS

from
Term 3, 2022



**SOUTHERN CROSS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
growing followers of Jesus

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Dear Church Family,

It's a real privilege to collect and enjoy the first read of the reports from our various teams as they reflect on the term just gone. It's so encouraging to see how our great God is at work across our church family.

Why not grab a cuppa and take some time to read through these reports... And I encourage you to pray... Pray and give thanks for God's provision and faithfulness to us. And pray specifically for our ministries and leadership as we head into a new term.

Yours in Christ's service,

Peita

Ministry Coordinator



**SOUTHERN CROSS
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Leadership Team

REFLECTIONS ON TERM 3, 2022

How would you describe the past term? For many, I believe *fatigue* would be a key word. Yet despite this, there's also been a genuine feeling of hope and energy. Not just for our town of Lismore, although the gradual rebuild is certainly hope-inspiring, but I believe there's been a renewed sense of hope in Christ – a hope that is far deeper and richer.

What sparked it? Why does there seem to be a genuine joy and vibrancy in our church family at the moment? Was it Celebration Sunday? It was certainly encouraging hearing the stories of God's work. Was it Ephesians? How brilliant was it exploring the richness of being in Christ? Was it hearing the stories that came out of the young adults' weekend and Safari? Was it the marriage course, strengthening families in our church? Was it one of the many other encouraging stories? In reality, I think it's likely all of the above as God has worked His Word in our lives.

As many would know, the term was a bit of a turbulent one regarding finances and knowing the future for staffing. We started the term with the news of a significant deficit in finances as we looked ahead into the next few years. Then, later in the term, it was with relief we saw this improve significantly. Quite a change in such a short period! Praise God for the generosity of many in our church family.

Given the year's circumstances on top of a difficult few years, it's incredible that we have been able to continue with such an excellent and servant-hearted staff team. We certainly hope that can continue, and moreover, grow! So please continue praying for this aspect of life at SCPC. Also keep reminding each other - at times when it's difficult to see the future, we rest in our Father's good will and trust Him through the uncertainties.

As we kick off Term 4, let's continue in the same vein as last term - knowing and living the joy of being in Christ. We're looking forward to digging into Proverbs and exploring its wisdom, as well a short series on the Character of Christ at the end of the term. We pray that it will help us all to continue to grow in Him. We're also excited to have the Playsteds back and look forward to hearing all about their adventures.

In Christ, David

On behalf of Wayne Brooks, Ian Coutts, Matt Crosthwaite, Scott Herd, David Kemsley, Jon Mison & Stew Playsted - your Leadership Team.



The Committee of Management serves our church by ensuring that our buildings and finances are used for carrying out our mission statement: growing followers of Jesus. They do this by...



communicating financial goals for carrying out our mission statement
encouraging the church to give generously towards reaching these goals
giving opportunity for people to give towards these goals
managing the buildings and finances to fulfil these goals



Committee of Management Reflections on Term 3, 2022

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

Dear Church Family,

We should give thanks and praise for God's provisions once again for SCPC! Over the past term our financial situation has strengthened due to the generosity of our church family with increased giving and Lismore High School reducing our rental costs.

We also give thanks for the amazing generosity that was donated into our #droplove flood appeal. This has now closed so we can disperse the remaining funds to those who have already benefited. We are grateful that SCPC has been able to help so many members of our community through their difficult times. We pray for the continued revival and rebuild of our city.

We continue to work with our insurer on our Brewster Street and Wyrallah Road properties. Unfortunately definite timeframes for repairs are still unknown at this time.

Please be praying for the CoM's October meeting as we look to set the forthcoming budget, including the timeframe for commencing the call process for James.

Yours in Christ, Bronwyn M

on behalf of the Committee of Management

Electronic funds transfer
Commonwealth Bank, Lismore
Account: **Southern Cross
Presbyterian Church**
BSB: **06 2674**
Account number: **28009463**

SCG Giving: ANZ Bank Lismore
Account: **Southern Cross
Presbyterian Church Goonellabah**
BSB: **012715**
Account number: **225745935**

Our 2022 Committee of Management Leadership team PLUS...



Dani Braganca



Bronwyn Mitchell



Dylan Brooks



Jason Faulkner



Louise Maxwell



Scott Patch



Tim Roberts



Dear Church Family,

For this Youth update I thought I'd do it a little differently by giving a brief rundown on my experience and observations in starting as a youth leader for the first time this term. It will be insightful for you to know what it's like from fresh eyes. In terms of content, the youth have been studying Ephesians like we were on Sundays and in DNA. And in terms of events, we were generally meeting at Lismore High, but did have one combined youth night at Alstonville which was fun. Here are some insights...

Firstly, I have really enjoyed joining the existing youth leaders. They are very committed to the kids and they bring a lot of positive energy. The energy they bring is what I have noticed most, and it's not a rowdy energy, but an energy of investing in the Friday night to make it engaging for the youth, and energy in investing in the youth outside the Friday night event. So be encouraged your kids have leaders who are really putting in for them!

Secondly, I also think they are a good bunch of youth. In the truest sense it doesn't matter if they are 'good' or 'bad', in fact the 'badder' they are the more grace Jesus can have on them. But I can see there is a comradery between the age groups and they ask some very good questions in the group times. They seem to look after each other well too.

So they're my main thoughts. I forgot to mention, I have not played so much handball since the 1990's! Like the rest of life, the handball rules are a lot more complicated these days.

I pray that through Youth Group the youth of our church will grow to believe in Jesus as their one true hope. Be encouraged that it is a place where the youth are lead well and every week they are reminded of God's goodness to them. May God's spirit be capturing their hearts.

Dylan

DATES TO NOTE FOR TERM 4

21 OCTOBER - YOUTH LAUNCH FOR TERM 4

2 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY

9-10 DECEMBER - DOUBLE PLUGGER CAMP FOR YEAR 9



SCPC and SCG Kids Reflections on Term 3, 2022

In Term 3 we saw, through Paul's letter to the Ephesians, that we are blessed and loved beyond measure and we are all one in the body of Christ. We were challenged to not be like a chameleon and blend in with the world but instead to stand out for Jesus. In the last chapter, we learnt that God has given us his armour to protect us so that we can stand firm in Jesus. It was a lot of fun performing at 'Celebration Sunday' and being able to spend quality time with our church family at SCG Camp.

Please pray and give thanks for:

- Our kids team - that they would be guided and refreshed by the Spirit, ready for another term ahead.
- Our kids - that they would know they are loved and blessed in Jesus and that they would be clothed in God's armour so they can stand firm and stand out for Jesus.
- Pray that we would all be loving the body of Christ well, encouraging and building one another up, pointing each other to Jesus.
- Praise God for holding us and giving us strength this term.

In Christ, Jess and Eliza



mum &
me time



REFLECTIONS ON TERM 3

We meet at Park Ave, 10am each Tuesday during the school term for children aged 0-5yrs. Please invite family and friends from the community, we'd love to share life and Jesus with them!

This past term at Mum & Me Time we looked at 'People Who Love Us' and it was a beautiful opportunity to share how God has loved us in creating us, and how Jesus has loved us and wants little children to come to him. We also did crafts representing friends, mums, dads and grandparents. Some weeks were quite quiet as there has been a lot of sickness around through Winter. But, we also have had a couple of very regular East Lismore local community mums coming along which has been encouraging! They're also very keen to catch up outside Mum and Me. Please pray for boldness to share more of Jesus' love for them and their kiddies.



*Can you guess
who these
special
Grandparents
are?*



It was one of their ideas to do messy craft next term, stuff we don't like to do at home! So that's Term 4's current plan, with the last few weeks being Christmas craft, concluding with an end of year party where we gift the children with Christian books to share more of the gospel in their homes.



We will also be having a Mummies end of year Christmas party - it is on Saturday 3rd December and we will have more details to share very soon!