

4 JUNE 2020

# CONNECTIONS

Stories of the SWAC-scattered community



## Introducing Our New Missionaries

NARELLE COSIER

Peru is the third largest country in South America, after Brazil and Argentina. With 32.4 million people, it is the fourth most populous country in South America. Lima, with 9.7 million people, is its capital city and it lies on the Pacific coast. According to Operation World (seventh edition), almost two-thirds of the population of Lima live in slums ringing the city. More than 80% of Peruvians speak Spanish as their native language. Latin America has a Roman Catholic history, and only about 11% of the population are Evangelicals.

Lima is where Nick and Kysha Davies live. Nick and Kysha (pronounced Key-sha) are our new Link Missionaries with CMS and in time, we will get to know them.

They have already been living in South America for a couple of years. Please pray for them as they, like us, are currently living in lockdown due to COVID -19.



## OFFICE HOURS:

Our office is now open:  
10am - 2:00pm  
Tue to Fri

Food donations and pastoral care by appointment

scottg@swac.church  
office@swac.church  
kyliep@swac.church  
mattb@swac.church  
amandab@swac.church  
craigr@swac.church  
nataliem@swac.church

Warden Contact

St Paul's: Peter Hilton  
St Alban's: Robyn Clarke

[www.swac.church](http://www.swac.church)



## The Essential Work of the Church

AMERICAN BISHOP DEON K JOHNSON

The work of the church is essential!

The work of caring for the lonely, the marginalized, and the oppressed is essential.

The work of speaking truth to power and seeking justice is essential.

The work of being a loving, liberating, and life giving presence in the world is essential.

The work of welcoming the stranger, the refugee and the undocumented is essential.

The work of reconciliation and healing and caring is essential.

The church does not need to “open” because the church never “closed”.

We who make up the Body of Christ, the church, love God and our neighbours and ourselves so much that we will stay away from our buildings until it is safe.

**We are the church.**



## St Paul's Renovations

Renovations continue to progress at St Paul's, with more of the flooring and toilet walls completely removed!

It is going to look amazing!

Please note, if visiting the office at St Paul's you will now need to sign in as part of keeping records for Covid-19 contact tracing. Lisa can help show you the simple form.

Every group, whether meeting on site or not, will need to keep a record of who has attended, and if they are feeling well. Peter Caspersonn will shortly be contacting group leaders to advise how to do this using our Elvanto database.

Just as a body though one has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is part of it.

1 CORINTH 12:12 + 27





## Bible Study Update

ELISABETH HOLLAND

As restrictions lift we are now able to resume our bible studies and small groups, provided the Covid Safe practices are followed. This means keeping a 1.5m distance from others, following good hand and respiratory hygiene, and cleaning procedures at the end of the meeting.

Bible study leaders can contact Elisabeth if you'd like to recommence so she can talk you through it. You will also need to speak with Peter Caspersonn about keeping a record of attendance on Elvanto. Please note that visitors to your home are still at a limit of 5 people visiting at once.

## Church Survey

PETER CASPERSONN

We recently invited people to give us feedback in a short online survey about your response to SWAC online. About 60% of members have responded so far, thank you. If you are still yet to complete it we would appreciate your response. The survey is very easy. Copy & paste the below link into your internet browser to open the survey.

<https://forms.gle/fb5oPU7GC2sn5qci9>

## Parish Communications

KYLIE POLKINGHORNE

Thank you very much to Natalie McDermott, Peter Caspersonn, Slade Higgins, Lisa Kelly and the volunteers who are putting together the hard copies of our service content and communications each week, as well as those distributing care packs. It is a flurry of activity on Friday mornings at St Paul's! We would welcome any new volunteers that are interested in helping to drive around Wagga delivering parcels to be able to share the load.

Remember, you can always access all the communication and services on our website - [www.swac.church](http://www.swac.church) and click on "SWAC ONLINE."

If you would like to join in a Round Bible Study over the phone please contact Narelle to get a helping hand.  
Ph: 6926 2892





For inclusion in the  
parish prayers for  
those in need please  
email

[kyliep@swac.church](mailto:kyliep@swac.church)

Contact Anne Flood  
to join the  
prayer chain



## Love One Another

SUE SAVAGE

A familiar old chorus echoes Jesus' words (John 13:34-35): "A new commandment, I give unto you: that you love one another as I have loved you." During our period of isolation and being 'scattered', one challenge has been how to show love to one another especially when a significant celebration comes around. The prospect of being alone has not always been easy. Over these last months there have been many instances where our brothers and sisters in Christ have shown love to each other on these special occasions and one of those was on Sunday 17 May, with social restrictions eased for the first time, about 30 people from our congregations (in 2 groups) were able to re-connect with Mary Small in her front garden, to mark her 90th birthday. What a gift the opportunity was for all: not only seeing Mary's surprise but sharing our love in this way, together again as the 'body of Christ' after so long apart.



## Many Thanks

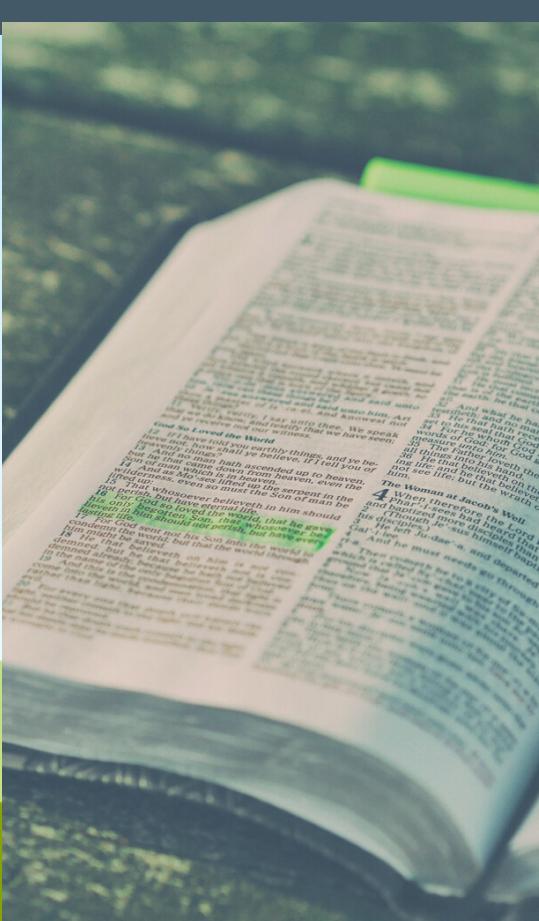
To my wonderful church family, my sincerest thanks for the beautiful expression of love on my birthday. I shall treasure the memory forever.

And thanks too for the many gifts, flowers, cards and messages received also. Thank you. God bless you all.  
Love from Mary Small.

Happy 80th birthday this week  
to Pat Beaumont



**SWAC Kids**  
**zoom meet on**  
**Sundays at 11am**  
**with Matt &**  
**Amanda.**  
**Email Matt**  
**for more info**  
**or to sign your**  
**kids up!**



# SWAC Young Adults

AMANDA BAILEY

God is doing such exciting things through our young adult community despite our current COVID-19 crisis. This term our bible study has been studying the book of Philippians, focusing on the topic of 'joy'; controlling our outlook when we can't control our circumstances. This has been such an uplifting and challenging series especially in this unusual season. We have seen incredible growth with our numbers reaching a new high of 13! Please pray that God would continue to grow our numbers and strengthen our love for Him, as well as equip us with a vision for the wider young adults community so that more people can find a place to belong here.



# Journey through Mark's Gospel

## BIBLE READING GUIDE

SATURDAY	Mark 6:45-56	Psalm 71:17-24
MONDAY	Mark 7:1-23	Psalm 121
TUESDAY	Mark 7:24-30	Psalm 4
WEDNESDAY	Mark 7:31-37	Psalm 16:1-6
THURSDAY	Mark 8:1-13	Psalm 98
FRIDAY	Mark 8:14-21	Psalm 27:7-14

If you would like to listen to a daily devotion from J.C. Ryle's devotional commentary on Mark please go to:  
<https://sites.google.com/view/swacresources/resources-home>



Send your pics and messages via email, text (or snail-mail) to

[kyliep@swac.church](mailto:kyliep@swac.church)

and be a blessing to our scattered church community.



## SCATTERED MESSAGES

CAROLINE EVENDEN

Thanks very much, I'm really enjoying following the SWAC services and newsletter, and praying for you all in these challenging times.

SCOTT & NAT GOODE

We are very thankful for your prayers, cards and messages at this time. Recovery is going well, and Nat should be going into rehab or heading home by the end of the week.



## For Your Prayers

For those in our parish that are unwell or recovering from surgery at this time, for healing and comfort.

For us as a church, that we will be encouraged to be the Body of Christ and continue to reach out to our neighbours with the Love of Jesus.

For our new CMS missionaries, Nick & Kysha and for their gospel work in Peru.

For the children and youth of our church and their families, as they navigate the strange uncertainties of life at the moment.

For the young adults community, that they will grow in numbers and in relationship with Christ, and for Matt & Amanda as they lead these ministries. Pray for vision and ideas on how best to lead during this time.