

# CONNECTIONS

Stories of the SWAC-scattered community



## Resurrection and Healing (part five)

SCOTT GOODE

We have so far considered the metaphor of wounding which is descriptive of ourselves and the world in which we live, and that God's love for us in Christ brings about our forgiveness and transformation. However, Christ's resurrection follows his death and points to our complete healing. How is this so? The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the beginning of a new era - the first fruit of a great harvest which will include the resurrection of all believers. Death and evil in the world is overthrown, and a new age of eternal perfection is inaugurated. Modern scientific method relies upon observation as its method of evaluating truth - it is therefore unable to 'prove' that Jesus rose from the dead precisely because science has only ever observed a world of decay. The resurrection, according to N.T. Wright, "is not an absurd event within the old world, but the symbol and starting point of the new world." There is good evidence to believe in the credibility of the Christian gospel but Wright's point is that the healing of Christ's body is an entirely new act of God, that our typical methods of knowing are too stretched to prove it. We need to know with faith.



## OFFICE HOURS:

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

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)



## Calling for Penpals for TRAC

SCOTT GOODE

Students from The Riverina Anglican College are looking for penpals! Due to COVID restrictions students are unable to complete normal community service opportunities and so are taking up the opportunity of writing regularly to a pen friend. This will count towards a key component of their Duke of Edinburgh requirements. We are after members of SWAC to receive such letters and write back! This promises to be a rewarding experience for both students and SWAC parishioners. Interested? Contact Scott ASAP as this needs to be finalised in the coming weeks.



## Brenton and Melissa

SMBC

As many of you know we spent the last four months in Geelong with Mel's family and doing Bible College online due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We finished up our exams and then spent a wonderful but light-speed week visiting friends in Hamilton. We thank God so much for this! Three days before the Vic-NSW border closed we arrived back in Sydney! How good is God's timing! We have now just started semester two at SMBC and are excited to be back (although a little overwhelmed at the workload ahead of us)! College is still online but there are opportunities for us to spend time on campus and it is great to be closer to our church. We loved studying last semester and learnt so much! Unsurprisingly I guess, we are really excited about our subjects this semester!

**"A church's vitality is not measured by how many people fill the pews, but rather by how much those people are filled with Jesus."**

MARK WILSON





## Calling all who can Sew

KYLIE POLKINGHORNE

With the recent recommendation from NSW Health to wear masks we are wondering if those with a sewing talent want to make and donate masks to the parish which will be sold from St Paul's and St Alban's. Money raised will go to mission and charity.

If you choose not to wear a mask at this stage you will still be warmly welcomed to church. Children do not need to wear masks.

### Mask Wearing Tips:

*Wearing a mask reduces the risk that we're going to spread COVID-19. But we need to wear it safely to prevent self-contamination or spread contamination around us. It is now recommended to wear a mask when you're not able to physically distance from others.*

- \* Wash your hands before and after putting a mask on.*
- \* Make sure it's comfortable when you put it on so you don't fiddle with it later.*
- \* Throw disposable masks in the bin after one wear.*
- \* Put washable masks in a plastic bag after one wear until you can wash them.*
- \* Wear your mask over your nose and mouth.*



Please remember to stay at home if you are unwell. If you need anything dropped off to you, please give the church office a call and we will do what we can to assist you.

People,  
come together  
Strangers,  
neighbours  
Our blood is one  
Children of  
generations  
Of every nation  
Of Kingdom come





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

scottg@swac.church  
or  
kyliep@swac.church



## For Your Prayers

1. For HSC, college and university students, whose courses of study are changing, whose placements are cancelled, whose graduation is uncertain: Lord, show them that while life is uncertain, their trust can be in you.
2. For Christians in every neighbourhood, community, and city: May your Holy Spirit inspire us to pray, to give, to love, to serve, and to proclaim the gospel, that the name of Jesus Christ might be glorified around the world.
3. For front line health care workers, we thank you for their vocational call to serve us. We also pray: Lord, keep them safe and healthy. Keep their families safe and healthy. Lord, help Christians in health care to exhibit extraordinary peace, so that many would ask about the reason for their hope. Give them opportunities to proclaim the gospel.

Lord, we trust that you are good and do good. Teach us to be your faithful people in this time of global crisis. Help us to follow in the footsteps of our faithful shepherd, Jesus, who laid down his life for the sake of love. Glorify his name as you equip us with everything needed for doing your will. Amen.

*Jen Pollock Michel is the author of Teach Us to Want, Keeping Place, and Surprised by Paradox. These past few weeks of prayers were adapted from her blog.*

## Joining the SWAC Prayer Chain

BILL ANSCOMBE

For inclusion on the SWAC Prayer Chain, any requests should please come to Bill at aanscombe@csu.edu.au or to Scott. Bill will then upload them to the Parish Prayer Chain email.

Anyone who would like to join the Prayer Chain – please email Bill so that you can be added to the list.



You are  
living stones  
that God is  
building into  
his spiritual  
temple.

1 PETER 2:5



## The Future of SWAC Online

SCOTT GOODE

As we transition from online services to in person gatherings we are aware that many will continue to benefit from having online content available. Moreover we anticipate that there may be periods of time in the (near) future that will require us to suspend public services again.

With this in mind we will be working towards livestreaming the 10am St Paul's service each week. We are in the process of setting up the technology and training ourselves in its use so please bear with us throughout this transitional period.

Services at St Paul's will resume (God-willing) on Sunday 16th August so please keep an eye out for further information next week on the way to access this online. We will also copy this service to DVD format and make it available for viewing in the week after the Sunday.



## Journey through 1 Peter

BIBLE READING GUIDE

SATURDAY	1 Peter 2:13-17	Psalm 9:9-14
MONDAY	1 Peter 2:18-20	Psalm 148:1-6
TUESDAY	1 Peter 2:21-25	Psalm 119:97-104
WEDNESDAY	1 Peter 3:1-7	Psalm 113
THURSDAY	1 Peter 3:8-9	Psalm 78:55-63
FRIDAY	1 Peter 3:10-12	Psalm 108

<https://sites.google.com/view/swacresources/resources-home>



We have a registered covid safe plan for our church services.



## Returning to Gathering

SCOTT GOODE

### St Paul's

With the building project all but complete we are resuming services at St Paul's from Sunday 16th August. We are discontinuing the 6pm Evening Church and now holding two identical services:

10am All Age Family Service with Kids Church

4pm All Age Family Service with Kids Church

We are asking our St Paul's family to divide themselves evenly across these two services by contacting Scott or the office with the service you wish to register at, or indicating that you are flexible to be allocated one of these options.

God willing, we intend to livestream the 10am service for those not yet comfortable or able to return to church.



### St Alban's

Our St Alban's services are finding their rhythm with an even attendance across the three services:

5pm Saturday Holy Communion

8am Sunday Holy Communion

10am Wednesday Holy Communion

If you wish to attend or change your service of attendance simply let the office know.