

CONNECTIONS

Stories of the SWAC community



The Living Church

SCOTT GOODE

This weekend we begin our 2021 ministry year by imagining together what God is calling our church community to be and do. We will prayerfully dedicate our ministries and listen to God's own vision of His church as 'living'. Over five weeks we will focus on:

30-31st Jan: *Worship*

6-7th Feb: *Service*

13-14th Feb: *Fellowship*

20-21st Feb: *Evangelism*

27-28th Feb: *Impact*

There are also two special events which I want to invite you to. Firstly, Kylie Polkinghorne will be commissioned as our MTS Community & Families Minister at St Paul's 5pm on Sunday 31st January. And then from Sunday 7th February we will be watching *The Chosen* (series one has eight episodes) at Evening Church during term one. This will be a great opportunity to invite your family and friends to.



the living
church.

Coming Events

SAT 30th to SUN 31st JAN
Vision Weekend Services

SUNDAY 31st JAN

5pm St Paul's Kylie
Polkinghorne's
Commissioning Service

FRIDAY 5th FEB

Kids Club Launch
Youth Group Launch

TUES-WED 9th & 10th FEB
mainly music commences

WEDNESDAY 17th FEB

Ash Wednesday
10am St Alban's HC
7pm St Paul's

THURSDAY 4th MARCH

St Martin's Dinner

FRIDAY 5th MARCH

Koorinal Chinese Luncheon



What are the differences in our Church Services?

SCOTT GOODE

This year we continue to refine our services and ensure they are meaningful to the variety of people in our parish and those with whom we are seeking to connect.

On Saturday nights we have a relaxed **Prayer Book** service with a mix of songs from the Mission Praise song book. It is usually Holy Communion but once a month we have Evening Prayer. Our 8am service is a robed **Holy Communion** with classical hymns. Our 10am **all age Family Service** has contemporary music, a Kids Spot and Kids Church - once a month we share in Holy Communion. **Sunday Evenings** at St Paul's is relaxed for the young and young at heart, and our **Wednesday Mornings** at St Alban's is a simplified Communion Service with music, but no singing. We encourage you to find something just right for you! And why not be stretched out beyond your comfort zone and also come along to a service you would not usually go to? We look forward to fellowship with you this year.

SWAC Spotlight: Kylie Polkinghorne

What will be your role this year?

This year I begin my MTS Apprenticeship as *Community and Families Minister*. I imagine that most of my time will be spent between mainly music, women's ministry, community events, Sunday services and studying!

What are you looking forward to the most?

I'm super keen to start my Diploma in Theology and really get into studying God's Word and to strengthen my knowledge of the Bible.

How can we support you?

I'd love to invite you into partnership with me through regularly praying for me - that God would grow me and use me to share His love for Wagga. Also to consider financially supporting me as my income over this next two years needs to be fundraised. All donations are tax-deductible!

Worship Services

5pm Saturday St Alban's

8am Sunday St Alban's

10am Sunday St Paul's

5pm Sunday St Paul's

10am Wednesday
St Alban's





The Chosen

During term one Evening Church we will be featuring the high quality series *The Chosen*. As of August 2020, season one has been viewed nearly 50 million times in 180 countries! It is unique in that it portrays Jesus 'through the eyes of those who met him'. The service will include a few songs, prayers and a Bible reflection and the Lord's Supper where appropriate. Each episode goes for between 35-55 minutes. Once a month we will resume our Evening Church community dinner (with Covid precautions).

This is the perfect opportunity to invite your family and friends along and we will ensure that the evenings are accessible and appropriate for an audience that may not be Christians. Series One is eight episodes so it will finish on Palm Sunday.



How to access livestreamed Services

With COVID precautions likely to continue throughout 2021, we will be continuing the livestreaming of our 10am Sunday service. If you want to watch the service there are two options:

1. Email scottg@swac.church and he will add you to the email list that gets sent out each week with the livestreaming link.
2. Simply go to our website www.swac.church and click on 'SWAC online'.

New church member directories are now available from the foyers of both churches or from the office.





mainly music returns

PAM GREEN AND KYLIE POLKINGHORNE

Our first team planning meeting is going to be held at St Paul's next Tuesday 2nd of February from 9:30am for morning tea. All who are interested in joining the mainly music team for 2021 are welcome to meet with us!

We will continue to run two sessions this year, to allow for COVID restrictions and the size of our gatherings. These will be held on Tuesday mornings at 10am and Wednesday mornings at 10am.

Please pray for the team as we reconnect with the families from last year and welcome new ones, that we will share the love of Jesus with them through this friendly and hospitable program.

The Term One Super Roster has been emailed out. If you have not received it, please check your junk folder or contact the office.



Brand New Kids Club

MATT BAILEY

We are excited to begin a brand new Kids Club program at SWAC for Primary school aged children, held from 4:00 to 5:30, beginning Friday 5th February. This will be not only for those in our church community already but for their friends and the children around Turvey Park who may not have been to church before. It will be a key program for those in Primary School Scripture to be invited to. We need to build a team for this ministry, please talk to Matt if you would like to know more.





Anglicare says thank you!

KYLIE POLKINGHORNE

We have recently received a certificate of appreciation from Anglicare thanking us for our donations to their Christmas Hamper appeal. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who donated items! The Ashmont Community Resource Centre is located on the corner of Tobruk St and Blakemore Avenue, and is open Monday - Friday 9am to 2:30pm.



St Martin's has a new Head of College: Susan Bazzana. Congratulations to Susan who commences her role from the 1st of February.

St Martin's welcomes back SWAC student dinners

BILL ANSCOMBE

We are so appreciative of the folk at SWAC for their continued faithful and diligent support of the College in this way and in many others. It looks like we can resume our quarterly student dinners in 2021 and continue to create community that is largely inter-generational. The students appreciate the home-made cooking but more subtly, they appreciate conversation with older people and to know that others are thinking about them, and indeed, praying for them. I also want to express my appreciation to Peter Hilton and the Chain Gang members: Arthur Robinson, Ray Brown, Bill Vincent and Peter Keith, for doing such a splendid clean up of the Head of College House prior to the arrival of the new Head of College. Such voluntary service does not go unnoticed around the University and serves to promote the gospel in a low key way. We look forward to seeing SWAC back onsite soon!





The Chain Gang is a men's shed or working crew that meet at St Paul's from 8am on Wednesday mornings for maintenance work and fellowship. Talk to Peter Hilton for more information.



News from Craig & Sharon Rogers

SCOTT GOODE

Craig has been appointed as the Anglican Chaplain to the Forrest Centre, which includes ministry at Loreto Home of Compassion and Mary Potter Aged Care facilities. He had also accepted an invitation from Ven. Grant Bell at St John's to serve as part of the ministry team there. Increasingly, St John's has taken on a regional role overseeing the provision of ministry to the smaller towns north and east of Wagga. Craig has the opportunity to serve in this context along with St John's and the Forrest Centre.

The coming months until Easter will be somewhat transitional, after which the Rogers will formally finish their time at SWAC. In time we will organise a farewell.

Craig and Sharon have been part of St Alban's for twelve years, having reconnected with church after moving from Sydney. They have been a vital part of the St Alban's community, and over recent years have assumed increasing opportunities for leadership and public ministry. They are going to be missed, and yet, our loss is the Kingdom's gain as the Forrest Centre, St John's and the Western Region of the Diocese benefit. We wish you both God's richest blessings.

Welcome to Ian and Margaret Forsyth

SCOTT GOODE

Ian and Margaret Forsyth retired into Wagga after a career in Christian ministry and with the Bush Church Aid. Prior to this, Ian was a Magistrate! They have worshiped at St John's in recent years but have agreed to serve with SWAC for this year, at St Alban's in particular. Ian is an ordained Priest and therefore can officiate at the many Communion Services we run each week, which will enable me to serve the mid week retirement village ministries. Please make them welcome as you see them around.



OFFICE HOURS:

Our office is
now open:
10am - 2:30pm
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



Ministry Opportunity: Musicians to Serve

NATALIE MCDERMOTT

We are in need of musicians and vocalists to serve in our 10am music ministry team. The commitment is two Sundays a month including a Saturday or early Sunday morning practice. Music at SWAC is about community and worship, so please talk to me if you would like to be a part of our music team. We will have an open day of music 'jamming' during February so that you can put your toe in the water before committing.

CMS Link Missionary News

NICK AND KYSHA DAVIES

Happy New Year! Feliz Año Nuevo! In Peru, nothing really gets going in churches until nearly March normally. But with Covid still very much a thing, the usual summer exodus to the beach in the south being a shadow of its former self, and people needing to work, we're all a bit unsure what's happening. And that's the vibe: unsure. This is especially so as a result of a big spike just before Christmas which has continued, meaning people are fearful of another hard lock down instead of the curfew and restrictions we have now. Despite that, we're getting ready for online bible studies and courses in the upcoming month. God willing, our brothers and sisters here and in other Latin American countries will want to kick off the year getting into the Bible!

Gracias a Dios (give thanks for): A new year for all of us to serve God and proclaim the gospel. Also for opportunities to read and study the Bible with people we already know.

Por favor (please pray): That the Covid increase goes back down, that the sick would be healed and that hospitals will cope. And for our preparation for studies and classes.



“The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.”

HENRY MARTYN

Mainly Mission - on a mission from God!

NARELLE COSIER

Every Christian and every church should take seriously this idea of missions. We are on a mission from God: to bring people to JESUS and make fully devoted disciples of them. Every mission, missionary or ministry we support should be bringing people to JESUS and helping make disciples of them.

John Piper said, “There are three possibilities with the Great Commission. You can go. You can send. Or you can be disobedient. Ignoring the cause is not a Christian option.”

If we have the Spirit of Christ we shall do what we can to save the lost. The spirit of missions is not something different from, or superadded to, the Christian spirit, but is simply, essentially, and emphatically the Spirit of Christ. It is compassion for the perishing.

Some New Year Resolutions for Missions

Choose one or more of these resolutions and let 2021 be a year where you become more involved in missions.

1. *In my quiet time, I will watch for evidence of God's heart for the nations.* If you look for it, you'll find it throughout the Scriptures. The God who called out Abraham to be a blessing to the nations (Gen. 12:1–3) is the God who deserves the worship of all the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations (Rev. 7:9–10).
2. *I will pray for missionaries by name at least one day per week.* Why not start with Nick & Kysha Davies, our CMS missionaries in Lima, Peru. Maybe you know others, too?
3. *I will learn about, and pray weekly, for unreached peoples.* Go to joshuaproject.net and do some research, choose a people group, and pray that the gospel gets to them.
4. *I will learn about international people in my community.* Missions begin at home, especially when God is bringing the nations to us. Find out who is around you. Get to know them. Share the gospel with them. Pray for them.
5. *I will listen to and read the news through a Great Commission lens.* As you learn what's happening in the world, think about what might be happening spiritually in countries in the news. Pray for believers and missionaries there. Then, pray for the people there who don't know Jesus. Don't be exasperated by the news - let it drive you to your knees.





For electronic giving

SPTP Partnership
Account
BSB 702 389
Acc No 05202527

or see www.swac.church/giving



Finances in 2021

MATT FITZSIMMONS

I want to thank the parish for their generous support in 2020 throughout a difficult time. The majority of financial support is now contributed electronically although we appreciate the many who give via the offertory boxes at the back of both St Paul's and St Alban's. Because of various government assistances last year, our cash reserves are now very healthy and have put us in a good position to attend to long overdue facility projects. However, you can note a general decline in offering over the last 12 months that we need to rectify as a parish community if we want to continue to fund our existing ministries. May I please invite you to assess your regular giving as we commence our year together and make any necessary adjustments? If you would like to give a one off donation to a particular 'cause' you might consider supporting one of our MTS Apprentices - Kylie or Amanda (tax deductible) or our Facility Growth Fund (not tax deductible) or of course general offertory is always in need of funds. You can contact me via treasurer@swac.church

