



Dear Brethren,

It has been another fun filled few months at the Gipps Street church of Christ. There is always something going on here and always plenty of work to do. There was a concern at the start of my work here that there may not be enough work to justify having 2 full time workers at the congregation here. However, these past few months have demonstrated that there is never a shortage of work in God's kingdom, and Daniel and I have plenty to keep ourselves busy.

My coming Gipps Street has certainly not been a chance for Daniel to do half as much work, but rather it has been an opportunity for the church here to do twice as much, and to share the load more evenly. We have taken a few moments here and there to review our work together and to see if we need to make any adjustments on the way. While there have been some small changes to the roles early on (mostly just to help clarify our individual responsibilities), we are both very happy with how things have been going and hope to continue as we have been. It is not hard to see the wisdom in Christ when he sent out his disciples out in pairs (Mark 6:7) or the numerous times Paul the apostle would send people to established churches to assist with the work. We are greatly blessed to be working in this capacity, and we feel we are much more effective because of it.

Church



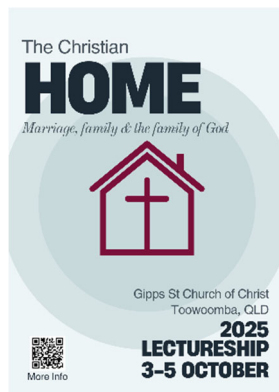
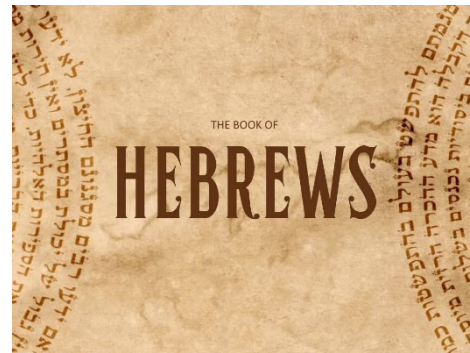
The Windsor church of Christ in Sydney, New South Wales hosted their first youth lectureship this year. Windsor and Gipps Street have shared a long history of fellowship and cooperation throughout the years and both churches are experiencing a lot of growth and interest from our youth. As such, the Windsor church reached out to us to try and connect our youth and form friendships for the future generations of our congregations.

The theme of the lectureship was on "The Strength of Youth" and had several lessons dealing with the strength and potential of our young people, and how they can be involved in the church. I was asked to present a lesson on "More than Milk" from 1 Peter 2:1-3. I decided that instead of lecture style, I put together a study guide booklet with discussion questions about the text. While it did take a little while to get the group engaged in the discussion, it ended up



being a very encouraging and fruitful conversation. We travelled down to Sydney with 4 carloads of youth/young adults aged 13-21 and the trip took about 13 hours with breaks. The lectureship itself was a huge success. On the first night, a young lady was baptized into Christ, and the following 2 days were a great encouragement to the youth of both congregations, and strong bonds of friendship were formed. The Windsor church is confident that they would like to continue the lectureship in future years.

Back at Gipps Street, Daniel Smith and I have finished our sermon and Bible class series on the Sermon on the Mount. We received a lot of positive feedback about this series, with many people pointing out how practical the lessons were. I will be continuing with our annual theme of “Covenants: A promise keeping God and a promise keeping people” with a 4-part series from Hebrews chapters 8-10. I am very excited for this study and look forward to diving into this intensely rich book



A project which has been taking a good portion of my time has been the upcoming Gipps Street Bible Lectureship in October. One of the skillsets that I have had to work on here, which I had not previously done much work in, is the field of graphic design and event promotion. I have been organizing speakers, and chasing photos and introductions from them, preparing flyers, posters, road signs and programs and organising all sorts of other aspects for this coming event. While the lectureship is primarily for the encouragement of the church, we are also taking the opportunity to advertise this to the community as a marriage and family seminar. We pray this will open doors for the gospel here in Toowoomba.

One of the members at Gipps Street opened their home at the end of winter for a soup and singing night. This was a great chance to fellowship with our brethren over some warm soup followed by going around the room and picking our favourite hymns. I am noticing that a lot of the hymns that I grew up singing in Tasmania are not the same as the ones they sing up here in Queensland. These singing nights are a great opportunity for us all to learn new songs together.



Outreach

Back in June we had a workshop led by brother John Reese from World Bible School. This generated a lot of excitement within the congregation for evangelism and outreach. Following this meeting, I held an evangelism planning meeting to plan for our future in evangelism. It was so great to see a church that is so enthusiastic and committed to reaching the lost in their community. During the meeting we reviewed some of our current efforts and discussed a few options of other outreach methods we could be involved in. While the primary of this meeting was discussing community outreach, we took the opportunity to discuss the congregation's whole evangelistic ministry. We broke it down into 3 categories: global evangelism, regional evangelism, and local evangelism.

Our global evangelism has been mainly focused on a work we support in Liberia and Ghana in northwest Africa. A few of our members come from that area and have been personally involved in the work there for many years. The congregation here has been supporting a missionary in Liberia named Nathanael Boakai and has been working towards assisting with the construction of a Bible school in Ghana. We also have a few self-funded mission trips to Ghana once every few years. We will have one going toward the end of 2026. I thought of going on one of these trips myself, but it is probably not the best time for my family to be travelling to Africa, especially so shortly after our reporting trip to the United States (planned for mid-2026). Perhaps next time.

With the recent WBS seminar, a lot of the members were interested in signing up for that, so we included that ministry as a part of our global evangelism. I will be organising a session for a few of the members to set up accounts and begin working with this ministry shortly.

For our regional evangelism, we did a quick review of smaller congregations around Southeast Queensland that we currently assist with preaching support. One of these congregations are not as desperately in need of help as they once were. So, we decided we would step back a bit from helping this congregation by reducing our number of visits to allow them to stand on their own as much as possible. Having said that, there is another congregation where the main preacher has been diagnosed with cancer in his spine, and he is currently unable to preach. We have been sending a member up to assist every week and will try to continue to do so. We had also been contacted by a small church near Brisbane, in a suburb called Ipswich. They are a house church and do not have anyone at the congregation who regularly preaches. Most weeks they will tune into a live stream for their worship service. Ipswich is only an hour to an hour and a half drive from Toowoomba, so we have been able to assist this congregation also. In addition to preaching support, we also hope to host a gospel meeting to help another congregation nearby. This will likely be in November of this year, and I will include details in future reports.



The local evangelism category is what took up the bulk of our discussion. There were several works proposed, and many were enthusiastically approved by the meeting. The challenge will be rolling these ministries out without overwhelming the congregation with too many options. I will be working on this roll out plan over the next few months and hope to have all up and running by the end of the year so I can put together an evangelism plan for 2026 with all these ministries involved. Below is a list of ministries we hope to get up and running.

A Prayer Group & Compassion Card ministry

An opportunity for brethren to be involved in evangelism through card writing. Members can gather in a prayer group and discuss friends, neighbours, and colleagues who are struggling with something in life. After praying over these people, the group can then write cards to them, so they know that the church cares for them and is praying for them. This can start with personal contacts but can expand into contacts gained from campaigns or other outreach efforts

Doorknocking Ministry

It was suggested that the most effective use of door knocking is around specific events such as gospel meetings or campaigns. The possibility of weekly door knocking was considered as a possibility, but the congregation may need some motivation to be involved. The suggestion was made for a Door knocking, Personal Evangelism, or Discipling class, on either a Wednesday night or Sunday morning, which would be especially helpful leading up to a planned event.

Aged Care Worship Service

Contact a local aged care facility and request the use of the common area for a monthly worship service available to their residents. This would take place on a Sunday afternoon and be led by a few of the men and include singing, bible reading, and a short lesson.

Visitors Day

A specific Sunday service to which members are encouraged to invite a visitor to come along to church with them. The service will be geared towards reaching the lost. A fellowship luncheon will also follow the Bible class, either a BBQ or pot-luck style. This service can also be advertised to the community.

Family

It was recently announced that a few congregations in Southeast Queensland have decided to come together to put on a family church camp this year to connect the congregations in this area. As I think back to some of my fondest memories growing up, a significant portion of those memories come from Camp Warana, an annual church family camp in Tasmania, where several of the Tasmanian congregations would meet for a week and enjoy fun, fellowship, and Bible study. I have often said I would like to give the same sort of experience for my children as they grow up, but there are unfortunately not as many church camps going on these days except for the one in Tasmania and a few in Victoria. There was also one we attended earlier this year, but it was quite small and didn't have many children. Registrations for this upcoming camp, however, are up at 75 people so far. I am particularly excited for this camp, and I look forward to telling you all about it in a future report.

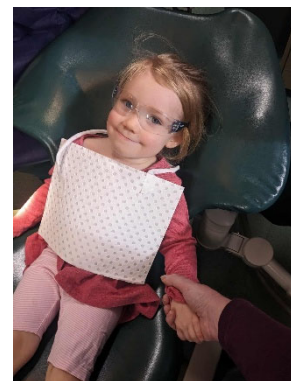


Evelyn had her 3rd birthday on the 21st of July. When asked what she wanted for her birthday, she wanted everything to be exactly the same as her older sister Olive's birthday a month earlier. The same present, the same dinner, and the same cake. While we did get a slightly different doll for a present, and we substituted strawberries for raspberries on her cake, everything else was just like Olive's.

Other than this, all Evie wanted for her birthday was to go out with her mummy for a coffee (steamed milk). While the older girls have been at school, she is really enjoying having Hannah all to herself, even just to go out for a hot drink.



The older girls have been doing very well at school and have been making very good friends. There is so much that I would like to include in these reports that the girls get up to. But I try to be discerning in what I include, lest this report be twice the length it already is. Vivien and Olive recently had their book week parade where they dressed up as characters from their favourite books. Vivien had a special school toy, Sammy the Sloth that she got to bring home for a weekend and prepare a scrapbook page on all the exciting things they did together. Olive also had a special school toy, Pig the Pug, come home for a night. Vivien had her first athletics carnival, which, despite coming last in everything, she loved every minute of it. The school had a visit from the dentist where Evelyn came in and had her first dentist checkup. Vivien's best friend from school, Lavi, had her 6th birthday party and Vivien was invited to sit with her in the birthday seat of honour.





The girls are now at a stage when they are starting to form different kinds of friendships with one another. Evelyn and Olive have always gotten along very well, likewise with Olive and Vivien, however for a long time, Vivien has not shown much interest in Evelyn, and vice versa. But just recently they have been starting to show quite a bit of affection for one another. While they don't play together so much, they do enjoy cuddling together and reading together. It is very much a big sister/little sister dynamic, and it has been really nice to see their relationship grow.



When we moved from Adelaide to Queensland, Hannah and I made the decision that we would not have a television in our new place. Too often we found ourselves relying on the TV to keep the children occupied, when we would really prefer them to be doing other things instead. However, I often enjoy a good movie, and we don't have a problem with the girls watching movies or TV, so instead of a television set, we bought a projector that we bring out on certain special occasions. This has given rise to our new family movie night tradition. Every couple of weeks I will pick a

family movie, set up our projector, buy some kind take-away (or takeout), get some snacks, and watch a movie with the family all huddled up on the couch. This has become something that we all greatly look forward to.

An exciting milestone for our family is that Hannah and I had our 10-year anniversary on the 15th of August this year. As we took stock of everything that has happened over the last 10 years, we feel that time has flown by, but we also feel that we have done so much and have grown so significantly. We celebrated the occasion by going out to a violin quartet concerto who played The Four Seasons by the Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi. After that, we went out for dinner and dessert, and we took the time to reflect on our time married together and began discussing what the next 10 years might look like. Applying the important caveat, that God alone knows what our future holds. One very exciting development that we are praying for is the purchase of our first home. We have had our offer approved, had our finance organized and are now awaiting settlement at the start of September. While we won't be able to move in straight away, we are excited to begin this next chapter of our lives with the security of our own home, a good school, a busy work, and a church that our family loves, and that loves our family in return.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

