



# THE FRIEND

11AM | 12 APRIL 2026

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Hello! We are glad you could join us for today's worship service at Lygon Street Christian Chapel. We are a friendly, evangelical church in the city of Melbourne. As those seeking to love and follow Jesus Christ, we welcome people from all walks of life and all parts of the world.

In this bulletin, you will find our vision statement, the order of today's service, and other information you may find helpful. It is our prayer that you are blessed worshipping with us today. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the leadership (or anyone who looks like they would know).



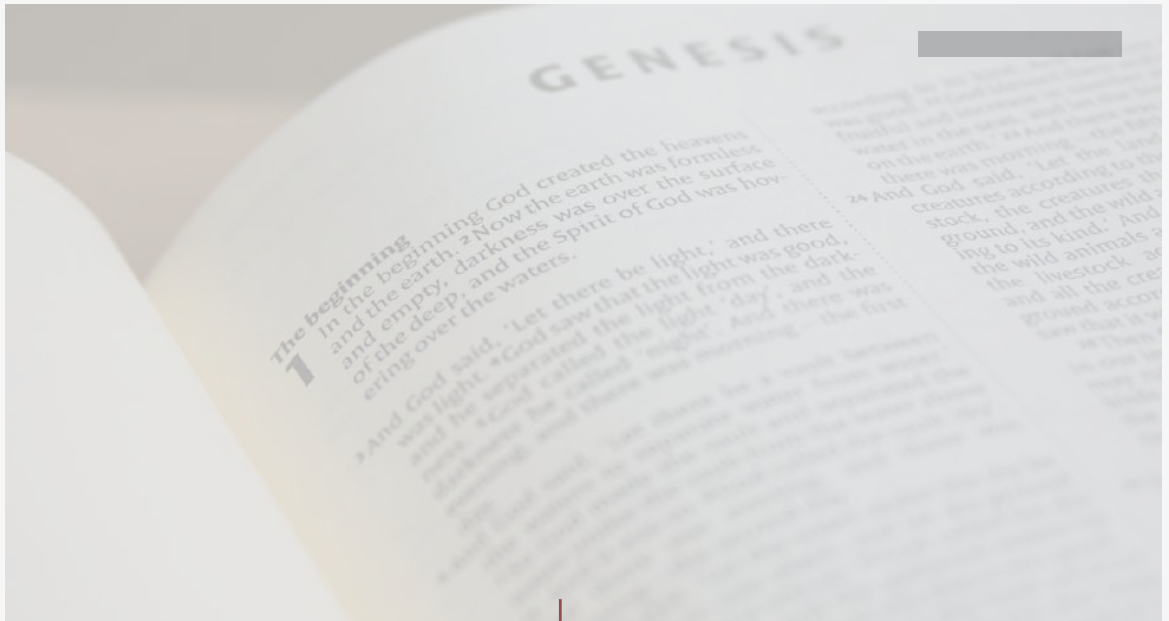
## OUR VISION & MISSION

*We are a Bible-centered church that exists to bring glory to God.*

*We believe what the Bible says – that it is God’s perfect word to us.*

*We seek to teach from His Word faithfully so that every member will build a deep and lasting personal relationship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and be equipped to share the Good News of God’s free salvation to everyone.*

*It is our mission to love one another passionately, serve selflessly and reach out lovingly so that those who are far away from God may find new life in Jesus.*



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# WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE SERVICE TODAY

## — 11AM

Praising God in songs

Welcome

Announcements

Prayer

Offering

Bible reading: Luke 18: 9-14

Sermon: The pharisee and the tax collector

Closing song: Come to Jesus

Closing

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## CONNECT

Hello! If you are joining for us for the first time, we welcome you to Lygon Street Christian Chapel. Here are some ways you can connect with us!

For newcomers:

[CONNECT FORM](#)

To view our Sunday service online:

[VIEW LSCC  
LIVESTREAM](#)

Subscribe to our mailing list for important updates and announcements:

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS





## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY - PRAY AND LUNCH**

Please sign up for the launch event, "Pray and Lunch" next Saturday 18 April, 11am-1pm.


Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/jReDpzyYZSzRWeRC9>


Here's what to look forward to:

 Icebreaking games

 Devotion by Joy Tan

 Prayer

 Lunch & fellowship

 Children's activities included!

 Date: Saturday 18th April 2026, 11 am – 1 pm

 Address: LSCC Church Backhall, 54 Lygon Street, Carlton

**RSVP: By Wednesday 15 April**

We'd love to have you with us!

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

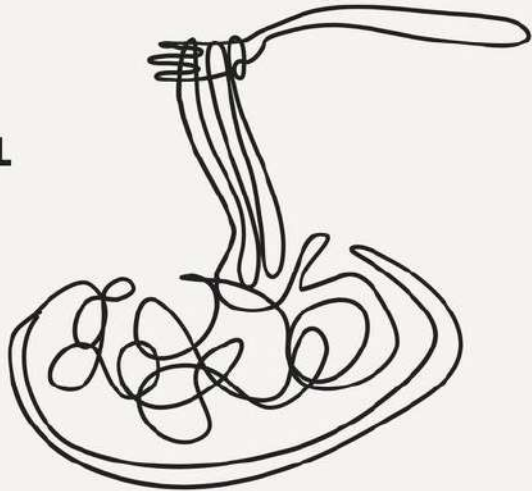


# PRAY *and* LUNCH

**18 APRIL 2026**

**LSCC BACK HALL  
11AM - 1 PM**

**\$20 PP**



**SIGN UP HERE**

**[https://forms.gle/WnTzmKzp  
9xCo2jA7A](https://forms.gle/WnTzmKzp9xCo2jA7A)**

*LSCC Women's Ministry*

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS





## CARLTON GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP - E-NIGHT

Hey students and fresh grads! 🎓

Term break is here—full of fun, deadlines, and everything in between. In the midst of it all, CGF is hosting a relaxed night just for you.

 When: **Friday, 17 April 2026 (next Friday)**

 What: Asian-style dinner, games, and a short talk from John 10 (Jesus on being the door to life full of meaning—what does that really mean? Come find out!)

 Bring a friend! By the way, please don't feel like you can't come along just because you are not a student or a fresh grad. Come and meet friendly big hearted people.

Questions? Reach out to Kenneth Thong on 0423 944 489 or Alisha Ding 0468 816 888

Looking forward to seeing you there. 😊

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**WHICH DOOR WILL YOU  
KNOCK ON?**

17 April 2026 (Fri) | 6.30PM  
@ 54 Lygon St, Carlton (Back Hall)

RSVP HERE!

 Carlton Gospel Fellowship

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL - AUTUMN BREAK**

Sunday School will be taking a short break over the school holidays and will resume again on Sunday 19th April.

During this time, our children will be joining us in the main service. We see this as a precious opportunity for them to learn what it means to worship as a whole family in Christ! We know it can be a challenge for little ones to sit still, and that's okay! This is a chance for us to model worship for them.

Here's some possibilities how we can all help make it a great experience:

Parents: Talk about the service beforehand. Bring a quiet activity or feel free to bring their Bibles and follow along with the sermon passage.

Congregation: Let's offer warm smiles and a welcoming spirit. Their presence is a blessing!

Let's warmly welcome the joyful noise and presence of our children. They are a vital part of our worshipping body!

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL (CHILDREN'S MINISTRY) TRAINING:**

The Sunday School Ministry will be holding a training session for all Sunday School teachers and helpers on Saturday 2nd May from 12:30pm - 3:30pm.

During this time, we'll be joining in the SMBC (Sydney Missionary and Bible College) Children's Ministry Conference and live streaming two of their workshops from the comfort of our church front hall.

All are welcome to join!

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 1. Sketch and Tell

**Presenter: Naomi de Vries**

*Naomi is the Children's and Families pastor at The Bridge Church, a multisite Anglican Church on the North Shore and Inner West of Sydney.*

Stories capture our hearts as well as our minds. Stories make the invisible qualities of God visible for children. In this seminar we will explore how to use and tell biblical stories well, creative ways to tell stories and tips on how to use stories to help children see and delight in God.



## 4. Presenting with Creativity and Humour

**Presenter: Adam Jolliffe**

*Adam has been a Children's Minister for 20 years and now works with Youthworks as an advisor, lecturer, trainer, camp speaker in Children's Ministry.*

One reason that Colin is so effective is that he's creative and hilarious. But inside the chaos, there are profound truths expressed simply to children. We'll dig into the serious stuff of how creativity and humour can make your Bible presentations profoundly memorable.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **SAVE THE DATE: CHURCH CAMP 2026**

We are thrilled to let you know that our Church Camp for 2026 is officially on the calendar! It will be held from **11th – 13th September 2026**. This will be a meaningful weekend to get away, connect with one another, and be refreshed by God's Word. We'll be studying portions of 2 Kings, focusing on the life of Elijah, with David Walter as our keynote speaker. We'd love for you to be part of it, so please pencil in these dates now.

More details on venue and cost are coming soon. For any questions, please contact our camp coordinator, **Christian Ong**, on **0420 897 875**.

## **"GREAT EXPECTATIONS" – Starting Next Sunday!**

Our time in Luke's parables has been eye-opening, heart-warming, and yes—challenging in the best way. As we wrap up *The Sting in the Tale*, we're not slowing down. Next stop: 1 Thessalonians, under the theme "Great Expectations."

We'll look through the lens of a young, growing church and discover what coming to Jesus really involves—and what a life shaped by Him looks like. Honestly? It's an *affirming* letter. And it might be the perfect time to invite someone to join you.

Feel like sharing? Grab the electronic pamphlet for *Great Expectations* and pass it along. Let God speak to hearts through His Word.

See you as we keep journeying with Jesus!

*LSCC Team*

# NEXT SERMON SERIES

Sun - 54 Lygon Street, Carlton

# 11:00

Great Expectations | 1 Thessalonians



**LSCC**  
New messages

19 Apr | 1 Thess. 1:1-10  
Expect transformation

26 Apr | 1 Thess. 2:1-16  
Expect to be loved!

3 May | 1 Thess. 2:17-3:13  
Expect to be opposed

10 May | 1 Thess. 4:1-12  
Expect to please God

17 May | 1 Thess. 4:13-5:11  
Expect to not stay dead

24 May | 1 Thess. 5:12-28  
Expect the end!



# IMPOSSIBLE



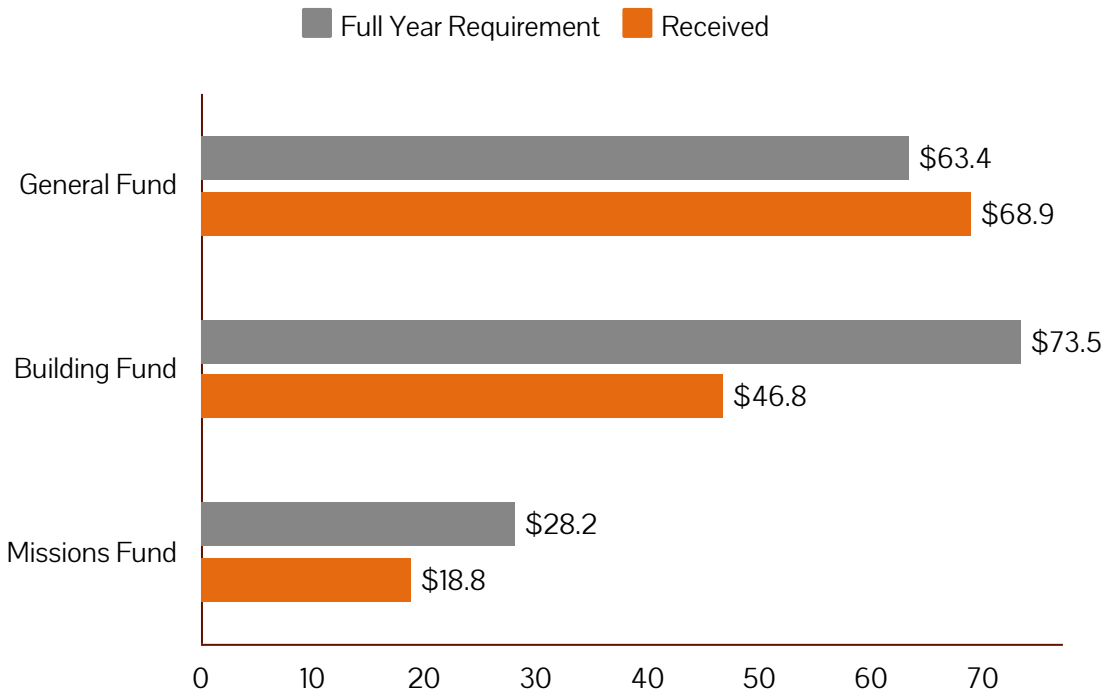
# CHURCH FINANCE UPDATE

Thank you, church family, for your faithful giving. We are pleased to share that we have surpassed our budgeted General fund target for this financial year.

As we prepare for upcoming property works — including plumbing repairs, split system installation, and garden space improvements — we invite you to consider re-directing your regular giving toward either the **Building Fund** or the **Missions Fund** to support the needs and the wider work of the church.

Please note that tax receipts will be provided for contributions to the Building fund and we kindly ask that you keep the contribution to a minimum of \$50. Thank you for your continued generosity and partnership.

**FY2026 Budget vs Actuals ('000)**  
**YTD 31st March 2026**



Financial Tracker - 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026					
	Avg. Weekly Required	Avg. Weekly Received	Total Period Required	Total Period Received	Total Surplus/(Shortfall)
<b>General Fund</b>	\$1,219	\$1,761	\$47,724	\$68,940	<b>\$21,216</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$1,413	\$1,195	\$55,327	\$46,780	<b>(\$8,547)</b>
<b>Missions Fund</b>	\$542	\$480	\$21,227	\$18,780	<b>(\$2,447)</b>

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# GIVING

There are a number of ways in which you can give financially to the work of the church. We have resumed the passing of offering bags during our church services. You may also continue to make your offering online. If you would like to contribute using online banking, transfers can be made directly to LSCC using the following account details:

**General Fund – For all our day-to-day ministry & administration costs.**

**Account Name: LSCC General Fund**

BSB: 033-000

Account Number: 593302

**Mission Fund – For mission partners, engaging in evangelism, discipleship, compassion, etc**

**Account Name: LSCC Missions Fund**

BSB: 033-000

Account Number: 593310

**Building Fund – For all our building-related costs.**

**Account Name: LSCC Building Fund**

BSB: 033-009

Account Number: 805316

\*Givings to the Building fund are considered as tax-deductible donations and donors will be issued with a tax receipt for each donation. We kindly ask that you keep the Building Fund contributions to a minimum of \$50. This will allow our team to better manage the administrative requirements for issuing tax receipts. For all first-time donors, please kindly email [lsc54@gmail.com](mailto:lsc54@gmail.com) with your full name and amount contributed.

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# GETTING INVOLVED

## **SENIORS' MINISTRY**

They meet every first Sunday of the month and third Thursday evening of each month on Zoom for Bible study.

For more information: Contact Fay Trevethick on 0412 444 131

## **CARLTON GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP (CGF)**

University (local and international), post grad, fresh graduates meets every Friday 7 pm at the back hall of Lygon Street Christian Chapel:

**54 Lygon Street, Carlton.**

For more information, you can follow us on:

<https://lsc.org.au/ministries/university-students>

<https://www.facebook.com/carltongf>

## **GROWTH GROUP**

Men and women of all ages from different walks in life meet in different areas during the week to study the Bible.

For more information about the groups and the ministry please contact Melvin at [melvinwylo@gmail.com](mailto:melvinwylo@gmail.com) or 0402 227506

## **YOUTH GROUP**

Year 7 to Year 12 high schoolers meet fortnightly at the back hall of Lygon Street Christian Chapel on Friday evenings for singing, Bible discussions, and activities.

Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm

For more information, contact Swee Yue Tan at [sweeyuetan@gmail.com](mailto:sweeyuetan@gmail.com) or Godfrey Ong at [jinwen.ong@gmail.com](mailto:jinwen.ong@gmail.com).

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (SUNDAY SCHOOL)**

There is a Children's ministry and program every Sunday at 11 AM.

For more information: Contact our Children and Youth worker: Vut Wong at [vut.wong@gmail.com](mailto:vut.wong@gmail.com) or 0425 299 804.

## **CHURCH LUNCH MINISTRY**

The church lunch usually starts in March and held on the first Sunday of every month after the 11 AM service. It is a vital ministry that brings the church together. The team always has room for more cooks, helpers in setting and cleaning up. For more details, please contact our coordinator: Siew Yuen 0432 890 499 or Dicky 0478 884 438

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# LOVE IN ACTION

## **MISSION PARTNERS**

### ***ICC – INTERNATIONAL CHINA CONCERN / Janet Chan***

Here are our praise and prayer points for this month:

- Praise God for keeping our children and staff safe, even through illness during the very cold weather at the start of the year.
- Pray for Bach's Bakery's team-building day in early April, that God would bless the staff and deepen the friendships and teamwork among our hearing-impaired bakers.

Thank you so much for standing with us in prayer and for your generous support of this ministry—it truly makes a difference.

With love and gratitude,  
Janet Chan

### ***OMF OVERSEAS MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP – Japan / Shao Xiong, Janet and Emma***

#### **Spring is here**

Finally the cold dark winter is over and we are experiencing the joy of spring here in Yamagata. For the Japanese, life revolves around seasons and spring signals the beginning of many things, such the school year and new jobs.

For us Christians, it coincides perfectly with Easter as we remember the new life that we have in our Lord Jesus Christ. Easter is also widely recognized in Japan, albeit for easter eggs and bunny rabbits!

***We have invited some friends for Good Friday service and the kids' Easter Party, so please pray for them to come and hear the good news that Jesus is alive!***

#### **Youth Retreat**

Shao brought two church youths (Gento & Kouki) to a youth retreat in Niigata. The reality of the aging church in Japan is very visible, and young people often feel lonely and isolated in churches. It is therefore a great encouragement and reminder for them on such an occasion to remember that they belong to a larger family of God. It was wonderful to see young Christians from all over Japan gather together to have fellowship over games, food, and most importantly God's Word. Gento & Kouki had a great time and had already decided they would very much like to go to the retreat again next year.

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# LOVE IN ACTION

***Please pray for Gento & Kouki (as well as the many Christian youths all over Japan) to persevere in their faith and press on to become committed disciples of Christ.***



## **Play, play, play!**

While Shao was at the youth retreat, Levene was busy organising playdates for Emma with her other kindergarten friends and their moms who were just happy to hang out together! Levene took the opportunity to invite them to the kids' Easter party on Sunday, and we hope that some of them might come!

***Please pray for Emma's friends Kana, Taichi, Iroha, Leia and Sui that their parents might be interested to bring them to church for the Easter party.***

## **Visitors from Singapore!**

We also had the privilege of having Esther from our home church stay with us for a month. She is currently finishing up her postgraduate programme in Tokyo and had decided to come up to Yamagata to learn more about the work in rural Japan. She spent her time following us around our daily routines and visited other OMF missionaries working around Tohoku. She asked good questions, listened and prayed, shared her testimony, made 'lohei' for a kids' event, and even helped us with housework and babysitting! She was really willing to try anything and everything!

It was such a great blessing for us to have had her here with us. We pray that what she has seen and heard this past month would be impressed upon her heart deeply and spur her on in her faith and to continue telling the wonderful news of Jesus to those who have not yet heard back in Tokyo and wherever the Lord leads!

At the end of her trip, Esther wrote a reflection in which she concludes: The life of a missionary was surprisingly, ordinary. And while they need to make a conscious, concerted effort to get to know people in their community, most of us are already blessed with several of them [back home]. We don't need to navigate cultural or language barriers. We just need to be intentional about living for Christ, and in a way that makes others want to know Him.

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# LOVE IN ACTION

Emma is now 4 years old! She has gained an interest in the Bible and asks great questions like "How can God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit be one God? isn't that cheating?"

This is currently one of her favourite books to read and we highly recommend it to all families! It goes through systematic theology in a really simple way for children. We have noticed that many Japanese Christian families do not have the practice of reading the Bible together with their children at home, and we are slowly trying to impress on them the importance of doing a daily devotion and providing them with Christian material to help them.

***Please pray for Japanese Christian parents to intentionally speak the gospel into the lives of their children every day.***

### **Other prayer items**

- **Levene would be entering her final trimester soon. Thanksgiving that it has been a smooth pregnancy and that we have received many hand me downs from friends. Please continue to pray for us as we prepare to welcome this new life God has gifted to us.**
- **Please continue to pray for Oka sensei, who is still on the slow road to recovery. Pray that he would be able to rest well and draw strength and peace from the Lord daily.**
- **Pray for Shao as he continues in his sermon preparation, especially for the one for Mother's Day in May, that he will continue to find joy in reading and expounding on God's Word.**
- **Pray that we will have opportunities to rest well and develop a healthy rhythm.**

Love – Shao Xiong, Levene and Emma



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# LOVE IN ACTION

**PIONEERS MISSION** –Thailand / Kelvin Loo, Yen Ping and the boys

Dear friends,

Thank you for journeying with us as we train and care for the C cross-cultural workers, so that they can better bring the good news to the nations.

## **Regional Conference in Feb**

We had our regional conference in February in CM after a long time. It has been 7-8 years since we last met some of our friends. A lot has changed in the country that we are serving. Nevertheless, it is exciting to see how Father continues to work in the Big C despite all the persecution and crackdowns.

## **Debrief**

We conducted another one-week debrief for the C workers in February. This is for workers who have been in the field for about 2-5 years. Many of them have experienced deep hurts from inadequate care, unrealistic expectations from their sending bases, and a lack of pre-field training. Our team here seek to provide a safe space for them to share their struggles and joys in the field. Only God can bring about deep inner healing and refresh them. And it's a joy to see that God has indeed met many of them in deep and restorative ways during their time with us.

We also have a dedicated children's team this time around. They provided vocabulary to help children better understand their emotions at various stages of their cross-cultural journey. They also helped these Third-Cultural Kids better understand their unique identity. It was a special time at the end when the children shared the timelines of their journey with their parents. This allowed their parents to better understand some of the experiences their children had in their cross-cultural journey.



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# LOVE IN ACTION

## **Online Member Care Training (Never Let Go of the Rope)**

Our larger team here started an online Member Care training in March for people who care for C workers. We are using a material developed in Indonesia to train their cross-cultural workers. It is quite comprehensive, with not only printed books and PowerPoint presentations but also videos. Our co-workers here spent hours translating and dubbing the materials for our use. It is the first time we are running this, with the hope that in the long run, the C people can more effectively care for their own cross-cultural workers. Pray for the remaining sessions that we still have. Pray, too, that we will learn from this pilot run how we can do this better in the future.

## **Kelvin's Research (DMin)**

Kelvin collected his first batch of questionnaires and conducted his first batch of interviews with the participants in the Debrief for his doctorate. The experience has been meaningful in understanding the attitudes and practices of Sabbath Rest among the C workers. Thank you for praying, and do continue praying for Kelvin in this.

## **Next Steps (Pre-Field Training)**

Our 3-week in-person pre-field training will be from July to August this year. The advertising brochure has been sent out! Our team has spent hours refining the curriculum. Now pray that God will lead the right people to join us. We need to publicise this, but we do not want unwanted attention. Pray for safe and effective dissemination.

## **Prayer Points**

- 1. Remaining Online Member Care Training**
- 2. Safe and effective dissemination of our Pre-Field (Next Steps) brochure**
- 3. Thank God for the past Debrief and Regional conference**
- 4. Kelvin's DMin**
- 5. Perseverance in our Thai language**

Thank you!

In Christ: Kelvin, Yen Ping (Nathan, Ian, Jovan)



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# LOVE IN ACTION

## **THE EASTER WEEKEND**

- For Easter: Jesus lives! Thank you for the finished work of the cross and the empty tomb. We praise you for eternal hope, forgiveness, and welcome home to our Father.
- For Our Services: Thank you for our amazing volunteers who served over Easter weekend. We're so encouraged by the interest shown. Please water the good seed planted in unbelieving hearts—draw them to Jesus.
- For Convention: Thank you for safe travel for all our campers to Belgrave Heights. What a gift to feast on your Word and grow together in it.

## **Continuing Conflict in the Middle East (USA-Israel & Iran)**

Let's keep praying together:

- Praise: Even as headlines trouble us, our Lord is still on His throne. Thank God He never changes, even when our world does. Pray we would rest in His wisdom and sovereignty over this conflict.
- Leaders: Ask God to move in the hearts of all leaders involved—grant them humility, genuine care for the people they serve, and a swift, peaceful resolution.
- Rescue & Community: Rockets and retaliation continue. Please pray for the protection of innocent communities and the brave rescue workers on the ground.
- Here at Home (Australia): Rising fuel prices are putting pressure on our economy. Pray the Lord would especially watch over the poor and struggling—those finding it hardest to cope. May He provide and protect.

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# LOVE IN ACTION

## **HEALTH & OTHERS:**

**Gary and Joyce Jackel:** Praise God for the safe arrival of their granddaughter last week. We thank God that both the baby and mum (Grace Jackel) are well. Also thank God for bringing Gary and Joyce back safely to Melbourne.

## **Neil Hawthorn**

Let's give thanks with Neil! His surgery at The Alfred last week went well. Please pray:

- For excellent recovery and rest.
- That the surgery would lessen the intensity of his epilepsy.
- For God's gentle protection as he goes about daily life.

**Swee Yue's mum (Mdm. Sun)** – It's a privilege to pray for Madam Sun and her family. While she faces a difficult journey since her diagnosis of motor neurone disease (ALS) and her head fall last October, and progressive weakness as her condition worsens, we praise God for the beautiful strength of her faith in Jesus—a faith that continues to grow and bring her comfort. We're thankful for the medical support she has here in Australia. As we hold her in our prayers, and for God's hand of protection as she's had a number of falls since her diagnosis, let's also pray for her family, asking God for wisdom in the days ahead and extra strength for all those who are helping to care for her.

## **Our Seniors Ministry Family**

- **Edwin Tai:** Pray the Lord renews his strength during regular dialysis and graciously provides for every need.
- **Emily Tai:** Lifting her up—pray for God's protecting care and practical help as she manages daily tasks with a painful slipped disc.

## **Aidan Teo**

- **Healing:** He's got an ankle injury from soccer. Pray for a quick recovery and for the swelling to go down.
- **Praise:** So thankful it wasn't more serious!
- **Deadlines:** Pray the Lord would help him meet his university deadlines before the Easter term break.

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# LOVE IN ACTION

## **CURRENT SERIES - "Sting in the Tale" (Jesus' parables in Luke's Gospel)**

Praise God for our journey through Jesus' parables in Luke. What an eye-opening series this has been! Thank Him for the ministry of His Word—bringing comfort, challenge, restoration, and reassurance to our hearts.

- **Looking to This Sunday (Luke 18:9-14)**

As we wrap up with "The Pharisee and the Tax Collector," pray that the Lord would use this passage to draw hearts to Jesus. Especially remember the non-Christians among us—that they would come to know Him as Saviour and Lord. And pray that LSCC would keep being built up by His Word.

- **For Our Sunday Service Team**

Please pray for Dorothy (song leading), Cindy (service leading), Ben (Bible reading), Melvin (sermon), and all our helpers—PA team, ushers, musicians, children's carers, and everyone else. May they be strengthened in their service to the Lord, and may the whole church be built up.

- **Open Hearts and Open Hands**

Pray that each of us would feel a gentle nudge to personally invite a friend or family member to church this week. May our services be warm, welcoming spaces where people can encounter God's Word together.

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:**

**For Our Children:** Let's give thanks for the precious children God has entrusted to us. Pray that our Sunday School ministry would be a place where their hearts are awakened to grow in understanding of who Jesus is.

- **For Our Teachers & Leaders:** Let's pray for the Sunday School Committee. May the Lord bless their work in both the broad planning and the weekly details, granting them wisdom and a deep sensitivity to His leading.

- **For Our Families:** Let's pray for the parents among us. May the Lord grant them wisdom to make godly decisions each day and grace to be joyful models of what it means to love Jesus and love one another.

- **Term break:** Pray that as the children enjoy their time with the adults in the worship during the 11 AM service as a body of Christ that they would feel included and be built up in their faith in Jesus.

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# LOVE IN ACTION

## **CARLTON GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP**

### **A Warm Welcome to Our New Students!**

We're so thrilled to have new faces in our CGF family! Let's praise God for helping them settle in. Pray they'll feel right at home and grow deeper in their love for Christ—right alongside the rest of us. Also, let's ask God to keep drawing even more students into our community.

### **Post Belgrave Heights**

Praise God that our students felt refreshed by His Word at the convention and enjoyed the deeper bonds formed during Easter camp. Pray that their love for Scripture keeps growing—and that their friendships with each other continue to deepen.

### **This Friday Night**

As they gather for games night this Friday, pray for simple, joyful time together—full of laughter and connection.

### **A Heart Like His**

Finally, let's keep praying that our whole church family would grow as a place that's genuinely welcoming and inclusive to everyone God sends our way.



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# LOVE IN ACTION

## **LSCC BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

**For Our South-Side garden:** As the Board of Management prepares a landscaping plan to bring some new greenery to our South-side garden, we're asking for clear guidance. Please pray for wisdom as we put the submission together, and that it would be received with favour, allowing the grant to be approved.

**For Our Building & Facilities:** We're also looking to overhaul the cooling system in the back hall to ensure it's comfortable for everyone. Please pray for provision from our building fund (DGR), for wisdom as we research the best new system, and for the right installers to become available.

**For Our Online Presence:** A big thank you to the helpers and designers who are giving their time to refresh our church website! As we migrate to a new platform, please pray for a smooth process and for great gospel content to fill our new homepage. Above all, we pray that this updated site will be used by the Lord for his glory.

**For Our Board of Management:** Let's give thanks for each person serving on our Board of Management. We're grateful for the joy and faithfulness they bring to their roles. Please pray for God's provision and protection over their families, and that each one would continue to grow in their love for Jesus. May they be filled with the Lord's wisdom as they make decisions to build us up as the body of Christ.

## **WELCOMING THE NEWCOMERS**

With grateful hearts, we thank you, Lord, for the wonderful new people you've brought to our church family in recent weeks. We're so encouraged by their excitement to grow in the gospel and be part of our community.

**Please pray:** that these newcomers would quickly feel at home. Ask God to help us be a genuinely warm, welcoming, and inclusive church where everyone feels they belong.

**For New Students Starting Life in Melbourne:** We're also holding in prayer the new students who have just arrived in Melbourne. We know starting life in a new city can be a big step. Please pray for a smooth and easy transition as they adapt to this new chapter. May they find a true home here at LSCC, growing in their faith and forming friendships that will help them flourish in Christ.

**Growth:** Please pray that our Lord would continue to grow our community. May He draw more people to LSCC who are curious about faith and eager to know Him.

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## BIBLE READING

### LUKE 18: 9-14

**9**To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: **10**"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **11**The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector **12**I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

**13**"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'**14**"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."