

May 2020 | Monthly Newsletter of Lilydale Baptist Church

the church **Messenger**

A Community of People who Worship, Love, Serve and Discover Jesus Together



For Pastoral Care and Prayer Support

please contact Pastor Stewart
on 0402 287 720

For Church Family Prayer Support

contact Peter or Fiona McLeod
on 5967 2755 (AH) or
Fiona 0427 682 301

For Email Prayer Chain requests

please email
prayer@lb.org.au



Church Information... Church Office

2/28 John Street Lilydale. 9735 2233
Email: office@lb.org.au
Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm

The Mustard Tree Shop & Café

3/28 John Street Lilydale. 9735 3500
Mon-Fri 10am-3pm Sat 10am-1pm

Online Giving

Lilydale Baptist Church General Fund
BSB: 704 922 Account: 100007931
Lilydale Baptist Church Mission Fund
BSB: 704 922 Account: 100007924
Mustard Tree Welfare
BSB: 704 922 Account: 100008629



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Worship: the Master Key

Today we are becoming more and more a keyless society. However, I am confident all of us will have some concept of what a master key is or does. The master key is the key that will open any lock associated with the system it was made for. Worship is the master key to our relationship with God. Any attempt to approach God, to know Him and to experience Him, is flawed without worship. It is a difficult thing in some ways to define worship because there are so many aspects to it. But unless we discuss this, the way we gather, the reason we gather and what we do and how we do it when we gather will be more about us and our preferences, than God. That is not to say there is only one way we can worship God. But in another way, there is only one way we can worship God.

I ask you to re-read the opening words of Psalm 103.

**Let all that I am praise the Lord;
with my whole heart, I will praise His holy name
Let all that I am praise the Lord;
may I never forget the good things He does for me.**

John Piper wrote, **“So, here is my summary: The inner essence of worship is to know God truly and then respond from the heart to that knowledge by valuing God, treasuring God, prizing God, enjoying God, being satisfied with God above all earthly things. And then that deep, restful, joyful satisfaction in God overflows in demonstrable acts of praise from the lips and demonstrable acts of love in serving others for the sake of Christ”**. I think we must be careful to recognise these elements of worship and enjoy the richness of how others express themselves in worship and then worship with them.

When I was still involved with Primary School chaplaincy, I would often sit in on the morning show and tell sessions. There was an enormous variation in the articles up for showing. Unfortunately, frequently the children missed the delight of what was offered because they were preoccupied with their own treasure. These sessions often ended in disappointment, tears and rejection at one level or another and chaos. Needless to say, this was never the intention.

I wonder sometimes if when we gather for worship, we view it as a show and tell rather than a come and listen. Consequently, our individuality that is, our beautiful and wonderful human identity gets in the way. We want what we want rather than what God wants. C. S. Lewis in his journey of faith was repulsed by the thought of a God who was so self-centered. He expects, demands His creation to worship Him. As he grappled with this view of God his view was realigned with an amazing and wonderful reality. Lewis wrote, **“the law of giving and receiving is fundamental and relates just as much to God as it does to us. As we go through the door of giving ourselves to God in worship, we find that God comes through the same door and gives himself to us. God’s insistence that we worship Him is not really a demand but an offer-an offer to share Himself with us to fulfill the deepest longing in Himself which is His passionate desire to give Himself to us. It is what Martin Luther called the joyful exchange.”**

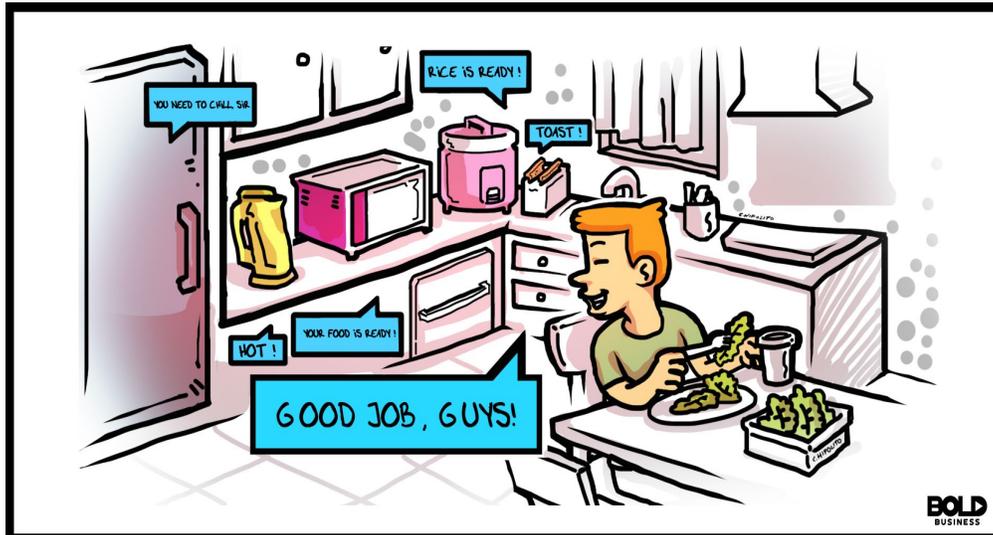
Perhaps I should rethink the title,

Worship: the Key to the Master

Pastor Stewart.



Just for fun...



Just be careful because people are going crazy from being in lock down! Actually I've just been talking about this with the microwave and toaster while drinking coffee and all of us agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she puts a different spin on everything.

Certainly not to the fridge as he is acting cold and distant. In the end the iron calmed me down as she said everything will be fine, no situation is too pressing.

The Hoover was very unsympathetic... told me to just suck it up, but the fan was more optimistic and hoped it would all soon blow over!

The toilet looked a bit flushed when I asked its opinion and didn't say anything but the door knob told me to get a grip. The front door said I was unhinged and so the curtains told me toyes, you guessed itpull myself together



Church Family Events for your Diary...Haha

- Any given day....
- Get up, spend time with God & have breakfast
- Take a trip to the bathroom.
- Tour the kitchen for snacks.
- Venture outside for some exercise.
- Have lunch & clean up.
- Laundry time & a hike to the clothesline.
- Re-tour the kitchen for more snacks
- Think about tea & bed.
- Have a snack before bed.
- Monday: Contemplate Sermon & ZOOM with Bec & Luke
- Tuesday: Think about writing a 'Who Am I?' for Vicki.
- Wednesday: Free Day & pray for LBC family
- Thursday: Read LBC Weekly
- Friday: Prepare for the weekend.
- Saturday: Watch your inbox for LBC Connections
- Sunday: Join us for LBC Connections

LBC Ministries...



This Breakfast/Bible Study is part of a series of informal, interactive studies for men in the historical books of the Old Testament. BYO Bible and a healthy appetite for breakfast. RSVP for breakfast to Bruce - 0419 501 528 or Gordon - 0412 349 886

IN RECESS

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If you are interested in joining a group please speak with Pastor Stewart.



BLINGG Craft

Ladies craft will now have to be done at home for a while. We would love to see what you are busy working on...Send us a photo of your 'craft' and we will post some into the next newsletter. Share with us your creations so we can all admire your handiwork.



You can listen to past sermons on either our church website (www.lb.org.au) or via the link shared on Facebook

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In Action – **Prayer** on the move for God!

ZOOM ZOOM ZOOM ZOOMING into Prayer!!

Every second Monday night

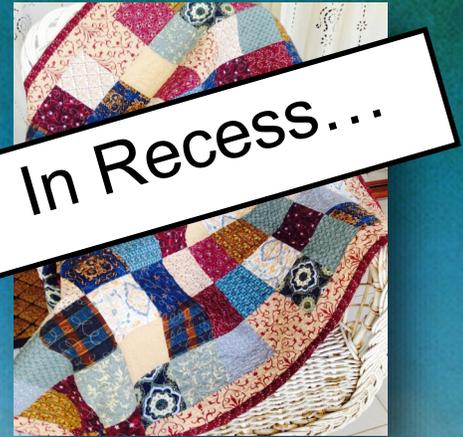
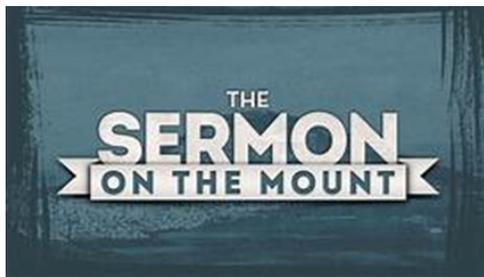
@ 7.30pm there is a **ZOOM** prayer group in the home of Luke and Bec Williams. This group is for the express purpose of praying for the needs of our Church family and the direction and vision of the Church. If you are interested please see Luke or Bec or contact the church office for details.

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.”
Philippians 4:6.



...Connecting us with God, each other and the community...

Have you been connecting with LBC Connections each Sunday? If you have yet to have a look, I encourage you to check it out. You'll see some familiar faces and hear from Pastor Stewart (& others) each week as we continue to be faithful to opening God's Word. Currently we are working through a new series called 'The Sermon on the Mount.'



Make & Mingle

It's about fellowship and support. It's a great time of sharing and talking. So if you're just wanting to sit, talk and share come to the church on Thursday morning, 9.30 - 12.00, and "mingle". **You can of course also bring along your craft!!**



Corona 'Prizes'

It's not too late!



Every Thursday in our LBC News we are having a **'Who Am I?'** guessing game.

Send in your answer (first attempt will be counted) & at the end of our church restrictions I will count up the correct answers and the winner will receive a prize.

Hint: LBC Weekly news comes out at 4pm each Thursday afternoon.

If you have a 'Who Am I?' entry please send it in to the office so we can learn more about you as we have some fun together!



All things Mustard Tree...



**Just in case you missed it.
The Mustard Tree...is
Closed**

The Food Bank...is NOT Closed

The Food Bank is still in operation and would value your continued support & prayers. The new opening hours are Mon-Thursday 10am-1.15pm



Getting Motivated for Missions

MISSION



matters

How can they hear about Him (Jesus) unless someone tells them? Romans 10:14

K PEOPLE David & Eliza

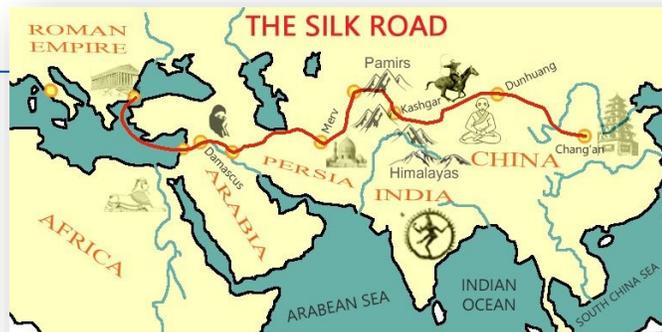


Please pray for David, Eliza, Jude, Dustin and Caitlyn and also for Ben, Petra, Bryce and Lachlan as they continue to work and live amongst the K People.

The Coronavirus Covid 19 is present in their country and they are subject to rules in the same way that we are here in Australia.

Pray for protection from this virus for the K people and, in particular, for the team there. At present the number of cases reported is low (2525 the latest figure) and 16 deaths.

K PEOPLE Ben & Petra



SOLOMON ISLANDS Eric and Jemima Maefonea (Josiah, Amos, Erima & Vicki)



Pray for:

- Praise God for the ongoing ministry opportunities.
- Pray for good health and daily strength..
- Pray for our in-service students, in spite of the difficulties with COVID 19 and pressures to meet family needs still keen to study God's Word.

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WYCLIFFE BIBLE
TRANSLATORS
Michael & Charlotte Corden
(Melora & Alexis)
Torres Strait (based in Cairns)


Because he bends
down to listen, I will
pray as long as I
have breath.

- Psalm 116:2

Prayer Points

Obviously we can have no interaction with Torres Strait Islanders but we do have a couple of specific prayer requests.

As you know **Charlotte** developed a DVT from her left leg from her groin to her ankle late last year. The hematologist has said the underlying cause was due to Lupus, a strange illness. She is now waiting on a call up to see the rheumatologist at the hospital to see if it is actually become systemic. Any nurses there might be able to explain.

That is not her main prayer need. She now has a largely inflamed Achilles tendon in her right leg. This is significantly restricting her mobility. She needs to keep her legs up most of the time to limit the swelling. It is causing her a lot of frustration.

Alexis. As you know he is incontinent of feces due to a birth abnormality. His bowel control had normally been pretty good in that he would only generally only need to use pull-ups about once a week.

However since Christmas he has been having a lot of problems. Lots of blood, fecal, and pathology test and visits to doctors, including a specialist. It seemed to settle down in mid February but has since recommenced. He now has need to change pull-ups about four times a day. This is very disconcerting, disheartening for him. It obviously affects us all in the house as well

Please pray for him, and us in this.

Praise. -- Alexis new NDIS plan was given to us in February with a lot of cut backs. We asked for a review and submitted over 13 attachments explaining what his needs really were. Amazingly the review only took two days and we were granted all we asked for, such as Speech Therapy, O.T. Podiatry etc. Praise the Lord.

Melora had to have an iron infusion about 6 weeks ago for her Lyme Disease. It seems when the needle was into a vein in her wrist a nerve must have been damaged. Her wrist is now rather weak. She is booked to have an ultrasound for this and further blood tests. Pray for an improvement to her health.

Michael & Charlotte

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POWER TO CHANGE

**Dave & Judy Huddleston
(Tim, Liam & Caitlin) -
Deputy National Director
& Member Services**



Huddleston/Power to Change praise and prayer points

We give thanks for God's sustaining grace and protection amidst the season of COVID-19. Tim, Liam and Caitlin are proceeding with their online learning and study commitments at home. Dave is working from home most days. We appreciate our evening family mealtimes where we catch up and each express one thing we're thankful to God for. Dave enjoys his regular walks and Judy is keeping active in the garden.

Praise God for his protection and for the dedication, perseverance and creativity of Power to Change team members throughout Australia. Public ministry events and conferences have been cancelled or redesigned, with the work of God continuing. Teams are collaborating well and seeing lives impacted for Jesus.

Please pray for the upcoming New Missionary Orientation training being hosted over Zoom from 11-15 May. 10 participants and 5 facilitators will be attending. Dave has some involvement. May people be enabled to engage and be well equipped and may technology cooperate and not prove too draining.

Pray for daily wisdom, focus and appropriate rest for Dave whilst giving leadership and cooperating with others to navigate the various demands and opportunities of COVID-19.

Pray for Dave and the National Crisis Response Team as they continue to monitor, manage, plan and communicate during this unique season.

Thanking you
Dave & Judy



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JEWELS OF HOPE Lesotho Dawn Taylor Australian Marketing Manager

Praise that:

Dawn eventually received a correct diagnosis for the health issues that she has had since her return to Australia and is on the required medication there have been no confirmed cases of coronavirus in Lesotho

Pray for:

- Dawn as she makes a long, slow recovery from an extensive blood clot in her groin and for wisdom for her doctor as she advises her.
- the Basotho people as the lockdown in Lesotho has been extended to 5 May – normally living a day-to-day existence many people have been left hungry

Thank you,
Dawn

Dickson & Jennifer Chilele BAPTIST UNION Zambia

Pray for Dickson, Jennifer and their family in Zambia, that they will be protected from infection from the Coronavirus Covid 19 which is just starting to have an effect in that country and other parts of Africa.

Education institutions are being closed and this may affect Dickson's studies at the Bible College.

1 Chronicles 16:24

"Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples."



Isaiah 6:8-9

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"



Getting Motivated for Missions

MISSION

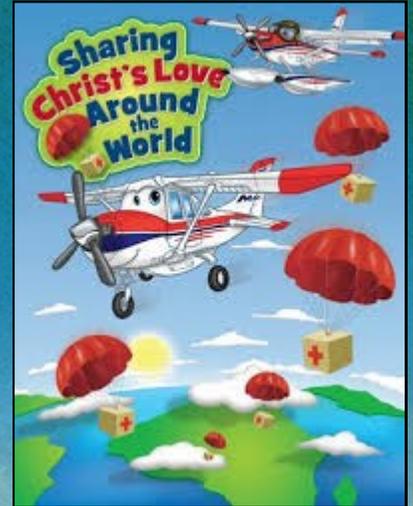


matters

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**MAF—MISSION
AVIATION
FELLOWSHIP
Marcus and Julie
Grey – Chief Pilot
and Home Support**



Praise:

We are thankful that MAF is still able to provide essential services to isolated communities all over the world.

Prayer:

Please uphold the team in Timor Leste. MAF families have been sent 'home', with only 2 pilots and the national staff remaining to handle the workload.

Pray for a good transition for the next pilots to relieve them and for scheduled maintenance to be carried out on their aircraft.

Pray for all essential workers 'on the front line' and particularly healthcare workers and Victorian Police at this time.

Many thanks for your love and prayers
Marcus and Julie



**MAF PILOT AND
HOME SUPPORT
David and Jen Pett
(Jonathon)**

- **We are thankful** for the technology that enables us to continue supporting our MAF staff from home and maintain connections within our teams and offices, and also participate in church services, Easter conferences and regular study groups.
- **Please continue to uphold** our UK family, and pray for the families of three people we know who have died in the last month, and were unable to have a normal funeral.
- **Please give thanks** that Jonathan remains in full-time work and Graham has been reinstated on reduced hours at the conference center.
- **We give thanks** for renewal of David's flight instructor rating and other items with Marcus before Easter. He is now qualified to fly when our training courses and interstate travel are able to resume. **Please pray** for wisdom for MAF's leadership as they re-plan financial budgets and work with governments to obtain flight permits to operate in restricted areas and access funding for health-related flights.

God bless,
Dave & Jen

Getting Motivated for Missions

MISSION



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**OVERSEAS MISSION
FELLOWSHIP
Simon and Meg Crittle
(Melanie)
Japanese Diaspora Ministry
Melbourne OMF International**



- **Praise God** that, despite the physical isolation due to the pandemic, we are able to reach out to Japanese people through the internet, with LINE messages (similar to WhatsApp, but much more popular in Japan) and Skype video calls. At present, our focus is on strengthening connections with Japanese families who have returned to Japan, as well as those students doing English lessons via Skype. **Pray for** openness and opportunities to speak God's word into their lives.
- During May, we are aiming to contact more of our mission partners (prayer and financial supporters). **Pray that** we can encourage these partners, who have been such an encouragement to us.
- **Thank God** that increased use of internet communication is opening up new ideas and possibilities for mission methods (for example, one possibility is group video calls with Japanese folk who have returned to Japan). Pray for wisdom and creativity as we explore these ideas to bring Jesus into Japanese lives.

Thanking you
Simon & Meg

Getting Motivated for Missions

MISSION



matters

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CROSS CULTURAL WORKERS

Matt Inglis
Japan



Praise/prayer points:

The Holy Spirit has given me peaceful assurance that He will provide somehow, despite the uncertain circumstances.

Please pray that our Lord's name will be glorified by how He does this.

Please pray that my English students who are reluctant to try online classes will have a change of heart.

Please pray for spiritual protection and that my recent improvements in sleeping (praise God!) will continue and further improve.

in Christ,
Matt



Melissa van Leeuwin
Centre for Disease
Control in the NT
Department of Health
in Alice Springs

CROSS CULTURAL WORKERS

Some prayer and praise points from me:

Praise God for a stabilisation of COVID-19 cases across the country and in particular in the NT.

Pray for the COVID-19 situation in Australia. **Pray that** we will not see an increase in cases as we see restrictions being lifted. Pray especially that we will not see cases amongst our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Pray for Azzariah, and his mum Farina. Azzariah is 4 years old and has very severe Rheumatic Heart Disease. He is likely to need heart surgery very soon in at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne. This will be a challenge to organise as there are no direct flights to Melbourne from Alice Springs (only to Sydney and Darwin, and not every day).

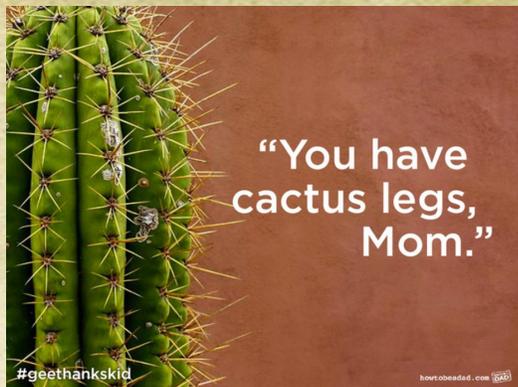
thanks
Melissa

Getting Motivated for Mother's Day..

If you are a mother, special friend, sister, aunt, daughter, grandmother or a part of somebodies 'village' this is for YOU!



Grandmothers and roses are much the same. Each is a God's masterpiece with different names.



Top 10 Momisms

1. Why? Because I said so, that's why!
2. I'm going to give you until the count of three!
3. It's all fun and games until someone gets hurt.
4. I don't know is NOT an answer.
5. I would never have talked to my mother like that.
6. I'm not running a taxi service.
7. If everyone jumped off a cliff would you do it too?
8. Someday your face will freeze like that.
9. It hurts me more than it hurts you.
10. Bob. Sue. Joe. Fido. whatever your name is...



FACEBOOK.COM/MOTHERHOOD.ORG

Image: Motherhood

via BFORBEL.COM

You are Beautiful
For you are fearfully 
and wonderfully made...

Psalm 139:14