

WHERE ARE OUR OLYMPIANS NOW?

REV DAVID RIETVELD

The short answer is many are in quarantine, in Howard Springs, in the Northern Territory. The longer answer is they are doing more than just isolating, they are also accessing mental health and wellbeing services. Some athletes have come home on a high, and are asking what next? Some have hit an eerie unsettling silence, after the hype. Some underachieved, and are processing disappointments. Some know this is the last games, and are facing life after sport.

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Mental wellbeing took a bigger profile in these games. US gymnast Simone Biles withdrew from the competition at the last minute. News of her decision to withdraw generated more social interactions than Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's interview with Oprah Winfrey. Google searches related to mental health on the day Biles pulled out hit their highest peak in two months.

On the surface, the commentary was supportive of Biles. It's OK to put your mental health first – was the common sympathetic wave of support. I don't disagree that mental wellbeing is critical.

But it's more complex than that. How did Biles' decision impact her teammates? And what if another, low profile athlete made the same choice, and she did not receive the groundswell of support? And what if the whole concept of individuals pushing themselves to their absolute limits dreaming of beating the world turns out to be – on average – disastrous for the mental wellbeing of participants?

This week we had the news break of a former NZ Olympic cyclist who appears to have taken her own life. Australian Story is about Australia's most successful basketballer – Luc Longley, and how being a professional sportsman made this laid back likeable guy hyper self-critical.

Two thoughts. Parents – think twice before you encourage your kids to be a world-beater. Second, ours is a culture that worships success, and sporting stars, knowing full well that the winning cup that many will drink from turns out to be a chalice full of poison.



Blake Moulds

As you may have heard, our church mourns this week with Janelle and Ken Moulds, with the sudden death of their grandson Blake. Blake had been battling Leukaemia and was undergoing a bone marrow transplant. He was a member of our church and attended Connect Kids, and many of us would have known him my his smile, as bright as his hair was red.

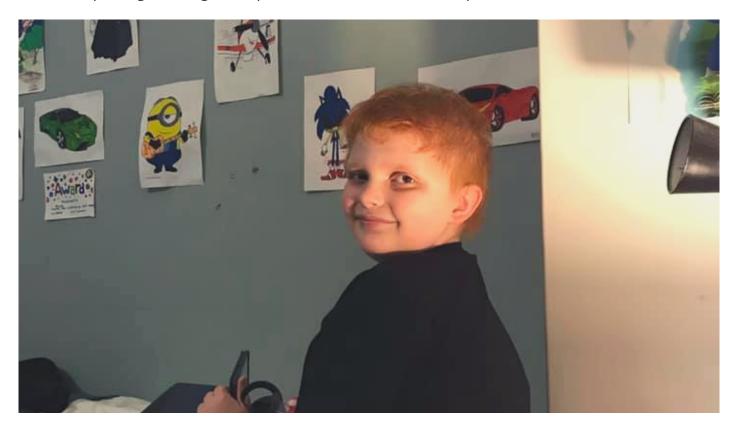
Join us in praying for Janelle and Ken, and the community as we grieve.

Lord, help us through our grief. At times like this, it can be hard for us to understand why. We may have lots of questions and feel anger, sadness, confusion, and many other things. Help us to trust in your goodness, for you are the Lord of comfort and rest and we know you are faithful.

We thank you for Blake. For the many lives, he brightened with his creativity and cheekiness. Please be with Janelle and Ken as they grieve. We pray that they will have space enough to process, but also feel supported to walk through this with people who love them. Thankyou for the church community around them. We pray for each person affected by Blake's death. May they trust in you.

Amen

If you would like to send cards you can send them through the church office, you can email office@daptoanglican.org.au or post them to PO BOX 25, Dapto, 2530.



Community Dinner

You can order for next week, simply email **thecafe@daptoanglican.org.au** or alternatively, you can **text 0414 935 643**. You will be able to pick up your meals from 5:45pm. When you arrive to pick up your meals please ensure:

- Only ONE person enters the building to collect your order.
- They are masked.
- They sign in using the QR code.
- Physical distance of 1.5m is maintained at all times.

Wednesday 18th of August

\$12 Roast Pork, roast potatoes, pumpkin, peas, corn, capsicum and carrots. Gravy & condiments.

Friday 20th August

\$10 for Pot luck pie! served w/Mashed Potato & Peas

Deliveries to St Lukes Village - Other deliveries on special request.

For those needing to drop off their offering envelopes, Jim will continue to be at the church between 6:00pm and 6:30pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.

What a gift!

Check out our very special delivery! We are so appreciative of the extraordinary generosity of Wayne, owner of Sel f Less in the gifting of these new lounges for Church foyer and Cafe area.

Two 2-seaters and two 3-seaters, Charcoal in colour, hardy leather, elegant and comfortable. We can't wait for you to be able to enjoy them with us soon. We know that you would want to join us in thanking him.



NEW DATE!

Women's Weekend New date announced!! February 18th - 20th, 2022. If you had already registered for the weekend your registration will be moved over for the new weekend.

If for any reason you cant make the new date and need a refund please contact the church office at **office@daptoanglican.org.au**.

THIS IS US

THIS IS US! Each week we'll send you an email with three profiles of members of our church, some familiar faces and some you may have not met yet. We'll explore how they are using their time in Lockdown and share links to things they are interested in, for you to explore.

Following the "This is Us" email on Wednesday, we will interview one of the three live on YouTube from 7:30pm.

This week it was so encouraging to hear from Jamie Mackenzie, Kelly Harper and Bev batten! Extra thankyou to Bev who shared her life with us on YouTube. So encouraging.

If you missed out on the email, you can check it out here (and press subscribe). If you missed the YouTube interview click here. Keep an eye out next week for our next three profiles!







SAFE MINISTRY



Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help. Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PREGNANT WOMEN

Amy S (10am)

MOURNING:

Please pray for Janelle and Ken M, (Cafe Church/Creative Connections) grieving the sudden death of their grandson, Blake.

HOSPITAL

Lynne N's dad, Trevor, following the cauterisation of an ulcer, plus being quite unwell. Graham S - in Bulli Hospital.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Molly B, Diana M, Kath H, Barbara L, Reg B, (all at St. Luke's Village); Robyn K (Diggers Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H (Warrigal Care, AP) Jean D (Farmb Grove).

8AM/2PM

Shirley S - recovering well from her stroke with the help of a physiotherapist; Lyn R - thanks you for your prayers and she does not have to have further surgery; Pat W - problem with her eyes, and please pray for her sons, David, who has an enlarged aorta, and for Antony, who is still grieving; Arthur S - coping after his treatment; Wendy R - please continue to pray for relief from pain in her back and leg; Daphne C's neighbour - Leukemia plus another rare form of cancer; Daphne C's daughter, Joanne - still waiting for her surgery.

<u>10AM</u>

Pray for Trevor W who was due to have knee replacement surgery this week, but this has been postponed until further notice. Phil P - thanks that the cancer has not spread; Continue to pray for Matt S as he settles in to his new role as an Addiction Counsellor; Sue B - please pray for freedom from pain, and for peace; Gwyn D - talking to Specialist today, Thursday; Joan D - still unwell; Michael T - recovering; Paul B - home dialysis.

7PM

Shaina J's son, Roman - waiting for Covid to be over to have his scans please continue to pray for him; Gary M - ongoing health issues.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Lynne N's brother, Steve, in America - has been diagnosed with Stage 3 Melanoma which is confined to his foot. Please pray that the surgery and treatment will work; Virginia C - recovering well.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

God our Father, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass man's understanding: pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you above all things, may inherit your promises which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.