



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

RETURNING TO FELLOWSHIP

REV DAVID RIETVELD

The time will soon come when we can resume face to face fellowship. Praise God! We are all looking forward to that. But I feel like a parent, excited when the extended family re-unites, and yet nervous about certain possibilities.

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Some people will be missing. Perhaps for medical reasons or personal reasons – they will be unvaccinated. What is the Christian way to respond to this? In the 1st century, there were pandemics but no vaccines. Perhaps eating meat sacrificed to idols is the closest parallel.

Can I suggest that we view those who hold the opposite view to you as a weaker brother? Others ought to do what they believe is right before God and be comfortable with their own conscience. It is not our place to cause them to stumble by suggesting that they must have been vaccinated – or that they have set a dangerous precedent by allowing the government to require them to be vaccinated (1 Cor 12:29-33).

Paul concludes that on topics over which Christians disagree, my goal is that “I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved.” (v33)

In addition, can I suggest that labels will do more harm than good? To label another as an anti-vaxer, or sheep blindly following the herd is to characterise a person around one trait. This is simplistic, unkind, and contentious.

Debatable matters have always had the potential to divide. Now is no different. Instead, let us enjoy meeting together as the people of God, and so long as it depends on us, to live at peace with one another.



Clarification

Last week I wrote a blog about blame. A couple of people have responded by asking if I was referring to Simone Biles. Simone Biles, so I now read, was abused by a medical professional, and her sport failed to support and protect her.

I was unaware of the details of Biles' trauma. My reflections were on the topic of blame in general and had more to do with my own experiences of being blamed or blaming others myself.

There are situations in life that are unjust, immoral, and over which we have no influence. In the ancient world of Jesus, about one-fifth of the world was born into slavery. Those children were not to blame, nor are victims of abuse. Where possible, it is right to stand up against evil, protect ourselves and others, and bring justice and wellbeing.

There remain many other situations in life where, so the old maxim goes, it takes two to tango. When I reflected on blame last week, I had such circumstances in mind. My apologies if any ambiguity in my reflections caused misunderstanding or grief.

Rev David Rietveld
Senior Minister

Welcome!



Please join us in celebrating the safe arrival of Ryland Parker South this week!

Amy and Bradley South welcomed Ryland on Monday 20th September. Ryland is their second son and little brother to Finley. The South's are loving every minute with their baby boy. Join us in praying over Ryland as he grows.



IT'S A SPRING Thing

This week I attended two 'It's a Spring Thing' workshops. The first was a Japanese Calligraphy and Character Drawing workshop where we learnt about different types of Japanese writing and tried out a few! It was such a great time connecting with other members of DAC and learning something fun together. Being able to see each other and see what each other were doing was a great way to share in the experience, even from our own homes.

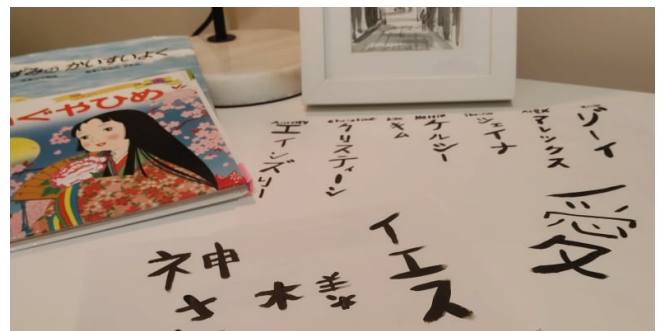
The second workshop was a Mood Board Design workshop where I learnt how to create a mood board for a room in my house. It was really nice to spend some relaxing time creating, designing, learning and laughing together. I not only left feeling inspired to redesign my home, or at least dream about it, but feeling connected and with a full heart.

Zoe Vesey

Mary Marciano wrote on FB:

"Hi Heather (Boardman) thanks so much for posting this (Spring Thing Link).. did the baking tonight (and eating 😊) .. coconut raspberry bread still in the oven (used strawberries instead) .. was very enjoyable way to spend the evening with some lovely ladies.

We have one more week of workshops. It's not too late. Take a chance and book into one of our free workshops, spend some time together and learn something new.



book now through www.dapto.church/springthing

IT'S A

SPRING

Thing

Book your Spring Thing
www.dapto.church/springthing

MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
20TH SEPT Ice Cream Slice Garlic Naan Bread Japanese Character Drawing and Calligraphy	21ST SEPT Sew your own Facemask Coconut Raspberry Bread & Crunchy Lemon Muffins	22ND SEPT Design a Room Mood Board	23RD SEPT Easy Formal Hair Hair Styles Sew Your own Face Masks Dumpling Making	24TH SEPT Air Dry Clay Vase Bucket Drumming for Kids Poi Twirling for Youth	25TH SEPT Learn to Crochet Squares	26TH SEPT
27TH SEPT Photography 101 Easy Formal Hair Hair Styles	28TH SEPT Japanese Character Drawing and Calligraphy Bread Making	29TH SEPT Minecraft Tutorials for Kids Design a Room Mood Board	30TH SEPT Coconut Raspberry Bread & Crunchy Lemon Muffins Book Club	1ST OCT Make it, Bake it Crochet Squares Bucket Drumming for Kids	2ND OCT Dumpling Making	3RD OCT

Community Dinner

Meals this week:

Wednesday 29th September

\$12 a serve of Roast Pork, Roast Chat Potatoes, Roast Pumpkin, Peas & Carrots, Apple Sauce & Gravy

Friday 1st October

\$12 a serve of Basmati Rice & Sweet & Sour Chicken

In the Cake Display during dinner pick up this week you will find, Carrot Cake & Blueberry Cheesecakes

To order shoot an email to: **thecafe@daptoanglican.org.au**

You might notice that the number has changed. If you call The Cafe on **02 4260 9278 between 9 am to 12 pm on Tuesday**, Jill will be there to take your call. Or leave a voice message and she will confirm your order later. Please order by 4 pm the day before. And remember when picking up to wear a mask & abide by current restrictions to keep each other safe.

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

Dapto Donut Day

School Holiday Special Tuesday 28th

10am till 2pm - 6 donuts for \$5

Takeaway only - made to order on arrival - nice & fresh!



Thankyou

We just want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and flowers following the loss of our beautiful grandson, Blake.

We are just heartbroken and shattered with his loss. He was such a fun-loving boy. How he loved giving us cuddles. His cheeky laugh, his beautiful red hair, his crazy motorbike riding .. he was a natural. Just everything about him we will miss. How we are going to cope with getting on with our life is in God's Hands.

It is very hard and it hits us in waves unexpectedly. We thank you so much. Prayers are still needed for our family to get through this.

Janelle and Ken Moulds and family.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord God, you declare your almighty power by showing mercy and pity: grant us such a measure of your grace that, by living according to your commandments, we may obtain your promises, and share in your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

MOURNING

Molly B (Thurs@2) died on Tuesday night at St. Luke's Village. Please pray for her daughter and son-in-law, Margaret and Les, and other family out of the area.

Please pray for Graeme and Linda B (10am) following the death of their son-in-law, Pat, in Canada. Their daughter, Joanna, is in Canada without any family, other than her father-in-law. Please pray for them, and for Pat's two boys.

HOSPITAL

Gail R (8am) in Shellharbour Hospital, awaiting future placement. Neville K (8am) in Coledale Hospital for rehab, and Graham S (10am) in Bulli Hospital.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

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

8AM

Shirley S - recovering at home; Pat W - please continue to pray for Pat and her sons, Antony and David; Wendy R - next to freedom from pain, could you add 'and pray for patience, Daphne C's neighbour - Leukemia; Daphne C's daughter, Joanne - still waiting for surgery; Lyn R - recovery from problems caused by Coeliac Disease.

10AM

Pray for ongoing healing and God's peace for Merrilyn and Leigh R; Phil P - recovering well; Sue B - coping after treatment; Gwyn & Ruby D - coping with Gwyn's health; Paul B - home dialysis; Joan D - pray for healing.

7PM

Shaina J's son, Roman - still waiting to have scans; Gary M - ongoing health issues.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Lynne N's father - recovering from cracked vertebrae; Lynne N's brother, Stephen, in America, has started treatment plan. Continue to pray for Janelle and Ken M.

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 4261 1001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945