



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

HARDWORKING, LUCKY OR BLESSED?

REV DAVID RIETVELD

The rich are getting richer, and the poor – poorer. Recent evidence is that the wealth inequality gap widens. This trend has only accelerated under coronavirus. One of the ways that we account for this, and wash our hands of any responsibility, is by the use of the term ‘meritocracy’. Even if you don’t know the word, you will know the idea. People who work harder and smarter get ahead. Cream rises to the top.

Anecdotes of smart, hardworking successful people are used to support this thinking. The fact that there are even smarter and harder working people who have not succeeded is conveniently overlooked. Recent economic modelling reveals meritocracy is a myth. The most successful people are not the most talented, rather the luckiest.

Economics Professor Robert Franks wrote a book in 2016 entitled ‘Success and Luck: Good Fortune and the Myth of Meritocracy’ arrives at the same conclusion. Readers of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes might affirm this insight is “nothing new”, “God gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God” (Eccl 2:26).

This is not to encourage laziness. The pattern affirmed in Proverbs “Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth” (10:4) is not to be dismissed. But it does encourage compassion for those who genuinely struggle. God instituted a system of leaving parts of the harvest for widows (think of Ruth and Naomi). Luke’s gospel and the book of James remind us of our calling to care for the poor.

We don’t value hoarding possessions; they are not the trophies of my success. Rather we value generosity - God has blessed us, so we can bear his image, and be a blessing to others as he has blessed us.

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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

Ainsley R. (7pm), Mel F. (7pm), Erin K. (7pm), April A. (7pm) and Katie C. (7pm).

THOSE IN HOSPITAL

Gordon M (8am). Brendan L. (37) son of Bonnie and Aaron L Royal Melbourne Hospital. Jason R (10am).

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Helen S., Bruce M., Diana M., Kath H., Ella H., Jean D., Lorna B-W., Glenys N., Barbara B., Barbara L.

8AM/2PM

Diane L. treatment ongoing - waiting for Specialist. Mavis B. waiting for an operation, 3rd week in July. Pat W's son, Antony - ongoing treatment, Antony's fiancé, Sue K - ongoing chemo.

10AM

Ronnie VK, Michael E, Janelle S, June C - all ongoing conditions and treatment. Michelle S. peace and strength as she undergoes treatment

7PM

Christine L. surgery Tuesday 30th June. Shaina J. son, Roman, waiting for appointment. Pray for good health while waiting. Billy Harvey - chemo treatment.

PRAY FOR TODAY

Heavenly Father, keep your household the Church continually in your truth; that those who lean only on the hope of your heavenly grace may always be defended by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



CONNECT KIDS

Connect Kids returned face to face last week on Thursday and Friday afternoons. We had 36 children over the 2 days who were all so excited for Connect Kids to return face to face! We had a great time playing 'social distanced' energetic games and also quieter options such as colouring in. Tim Sampson gave an excellent talk on how God used King David in fulfilling the promises made to Abraham (Land, Offspring, Blessing) for God's people living in God's special land, under His rule.

Please give thanks to God that Connect Kids has been able to return face to face; for the leaders as they teach and disciple the children; that the children will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour; and that ultimately God would be glorified in all that we do.



TAX EFFECTIVE GIVING

The end of the financial year is almost upon us which means we are fast running out of time to make tax-deductible donations for this year's tax return.

As of Thursday morning 25th June, we had received \$7,850 in donations toward the Building Fund and \$350 toward the School Scripture Fund - thankyou to all who have given. This still leaves us \$37,150 short of the amount that is necessary for us to meet our building loan repayments for the next 12 months.

The result of this will be that we have to fund our repayments from the General Fund, the consequence being that it will impact upon our ability to do some of our ministries over the next 12 months.

If you are weighing up your giving to either of these funds, remember that Tuesday 30th June is the last opportunity to make a donation which can be claimed in this year's tax return.

Please prayerfully consider your ability to give so that we can continue the work of making Jesus known to our families, friends and wider community.

How to Give

These are unusual times and due to public health orders we are not permitted to hand out giving envelopes or any other materials. So if you would like to give here are the ways to do it;

Bank Transfer to Building Fund or Religious Education Fund

Dapto Anglican Church Building Fund

BSB Number: 032686
Account Number: 162472

Dapto Anglican Church Religious Education Fund

BSB Number: 032686
Account Number: 301495

If you require a receipt for tax purposes please include your name and first initial (eg "J Smith") in the reference field.

Cash or Cheque

Please put your gift, together with a note with your name & address, and the name of the fund that you are donating to, in an envelope and drop it into the Church Office. If you are attending a service you can put it in the can be put in the offertory.

To be eligible for a tax deduction this financial year, donations must be received by 30th June.

