



# WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

## CONTROL AND FLOURISHING

REV DAVID RIETVELD

Imagine you are a farmer or married to a farmer, hundreds of years ago. Life is a grind, and you are at the mercy of the seasons.

You must plant your crops at the right time. You plant your tomatoes and lettuce in spring and your potatoes and cabbage in autumn. You harvest strawberries and berries in summer, and apples in winter.

You pray for rain. Like the temperature, rain is not something you can control. But you need both for a successful harvest.

You have little control over the soil. You can leave it fallow, and enrichen it with compost scraps. But there are no chemicals, no trucks to deliver loam. The soil of your region determines what will flourish, and what will not. As do the prevalence or absence of local pests and diseases.

In such a scenario, the elements regularly remind you that the world in which you live has an order. You must work out how to farm, what crops to plant, when, so as to conform and survive within that created order.

Now contrast that with modern life. We can control temperatures with hothouses. Or we can import out of season fruits and vegetables overnight by plane. We have watering systems, and hydroponics. We have chemicals, earthmoving and farming machinery. We can adjust the soil's structure and nutrients. Spray against diseases, and so on.

*cont...*



All of this gives us the idea that an abundant farm is something we can simply imagine, and then go out and create. We shape nature – it does not shape or restrain us.

Gender and sexuality are similar. Humanity has for thousands of years understood itself as part of a created order. And that order was instilled into creation, by a creator. Living an abundant life was about getting in tune with the contours and constraints of being human, or married and family life. Living and existing in ways that aligned with God's purposes and intent as it is reflected in his created order.

Science and technology now permit us to imagine a different world. One where we choose, we control, we imagine and then we make it happen, we play god. We shape our own nature, it has no preferences sewn into its fabric by another.

Just because we can imagine it, or even achieve it, does not make it either wise or right. God is still God. We are still creature, in his creation.

## SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Special General Meeting was held on Sunday 18th to elect three new nominators. We now have five nominators and they are:

- Andy Houghton
- Drewan Robinson
- Ann Rogerson
- Lorraine Miller
- Greg Batten

## EMPTY NESTERS

Empty Nesters are gathering on Sunday 2nd of May at Integral Energy Park for a relaxed afternoon of lawn games, picnic and great conversation. From 2pm till 4:30pm, bring along your own afternoon tea and chair to sit on. Feel free to bring a book to swap as well.



## MOTHERS UNION

The April MU meeting is this coming Tuesday 27th at 10.30 am and the Ministry Centre in the Main Hall. All welcome.

Julie Houghton will be sharing with us.





Dapto  
Anglican

rightnow MEDIA

## RIGHTNOW MEDIA

I like many people often struggle to regularly read my Bible or to practice a consistent devotion. This afternoon you will have received an invitation to RightNow Media on behalf of Dapto Anglican. RightNow Media is a digital library of thousands of small group and devotional material. Containing a huge variety of engaging videos, reflections, questions and leaders notes.

RightNow Media is an excellent resource for every member of our church. From kids, to families, to singles, young adults, not so young adults. Growth Groups will be using studies from this site for our future material, but we think the material will be a benefit for our whole congregation as we seek to do deeper core work. Set up your account and start exploring either through the website or download the App to use it on your phone on the way to work, or in your lunch break.

If you want to get started now, [click here](#). We have purchased a church licence, which means each of us can gain access. Click on the 'Get Started' button. Create a log in and away you go.

Check your emails for the invitation, please note that the invitation has been directed to some peoples 'promotions' folder in their emails.

*Taste and see that the Lord is good;  
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.  
Psalm 34:8*

Jamie Mackenzie

## COMING UP

- Friday 23rd April Connect Kids and Youth Term 2 Launch
- Saturday 24th April Women Who Walk
- Tuesday 27th April MU Meeting
- Sunday 2nd May Empty Nesters - Coffee, Convo and Games



# WELCOME TO THE RIETVELDS

Thankyou to all those who came to the Rietveld's welcome last week. It was great to see so many of you, and enjoy a lunch together.

The Cafe did a great job providing us all with lunch. We quickly reviewed the year that was 2020, and welcomed David and Marianne with some quite unique gifts. David and Marianne both spoke, thankful to the DAC community and their family for the support they have received. We concluded by praying over David, Marianne and their family.

Join us as we continue to pray of David and Marianne and their family.





# PRAYER FOR TODAY

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth so that they may turn to the way of righteousness; Grant to all who belong to Christ that they may renounce those things that are contrary to your will and follow all such things as are consistent with it; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### PREGNANT WOMEN:

Amy South (10am)

### MOURNING

Peter T's (10am) brother, George, 91, passed away on Monday evening. Please pray for his family and also for Joan and Peter, as Peter will be leading the funeral service.

### HOSPITAL

Graham S (10am) - came home from hospital, had another fall, and is now in Bulli Hospital, waiting to return to St. Luke's Village. Robyn K - transferred to Coledale Hospital.

### VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES:

Helen S; Diana M; Kath H; Ella H; Jean D; Barbara B; Barbara L; Reg B;

### 8AM/2PM

Lyn R - health problems; Pat W and son, Antony - health issues; Daphne C's neighbour - Leukemia; Daphne C's daughter, Joanne - waiting for results from scan.

### 10AM

Allen Q - home from hospital. Returning to hospital in four weeks for tests. Elizabeth L - home from hospital after many months, recovering well; Joan T - healing well and thanks for prayers and concerns; Nelson S - health concerns; Phillippa S - going well after treatment; Jeanette & Paul B - both recovering well; Sue B; Hilary B; Michael E; Michele S; Sharron H; - all ongoing conditions and treatments.

### 7PM

Jim B - recovering well; Shaina J's son, Roman,- waiting for more tests; Gary M - ongoing health problems; Calvin A's mother - cancer.

### CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Blake M (Janelle's 8 year old grandson) - having chemo for Leukemia.

## 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](mailto:safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au) or through our church office on 4261 1001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945





## CHARLSIES ANGLES newsletter 197 14th april 2021

michael jo sam caleb emma & lola Serving the Iglesia Anglicana de Chile with the Church Missionary Society

### Planting, watering, reaping, enjoying...

We are enjoying the produce from our vege patch. Last year we had a season of plagues: caterpillars, moths, untimely frost, a burrowing “bicho” (insect), birds, and a flood. We despaired of harvesting anything! As we have less than 4 months left in Chile (God willing!!), we feel that this is a metaphor of some of our experiences over the years. There have been times when it seemed the CEP was being afflicted by various plagues, both internal and external. But through it all, Holy Spirit has kept us watering and fertilising and weeding and plucking off the caterpillars. Others cleared the ground and dug out rocks before us, some planted and we followed, sometimes getting quite dirty in the process. But as we get ready to pass the secateurs on, we have been so blessed by the Lord to see a decent harvest and a steadily growing vine. The students’ disposition to learn and grow, even under such difficult conditions as Chile is experiencing, is testament to the work of the Holy Spirit. Jo has even had students thank her for the homework exercises that have reminded them of gospel truths and strengthened their faith!

Thank you for your prayers for a flight! In a very quick answer after months of uncertainty, we have flights booked for 21st July, quarantining in NZ!

Please pray the flight will not be cancelled, and for negative PCR tests in the days before we leave. Pray that the students will continue to seek the Lord’s wisdom and strength.

*So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.*

[click here to get involved!](#)



PRAY CARE GIVE GO

*A world that knows Jesus*



# Hola de los HADDON

*Training leaders to grow and serve the church in Chile.*

[gary.haddon@cms.org.au](mailto:gary.haddon@cms.org.au) [julie.haddon@cms.org.au](mailto:julie.haddon@cms.org.au)

Newsletter | April 2021

*So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Colossians 2:6-7)*



## Things get complicated!

The last couple of years have thrown so many complications into our lives that it is impossible to count them all, but the sum of it all is that we made the decision to finish our time in Chile. Since then, things have become really complicated. A long and complicated story short: we managed to get Julie, Annika & Elissa on to a repatriation flight out of Los Angeles at the last minute. They have now completed their quarantine in Howard Springs in Darwin and are back in Sydney. Gary remains in lockdown in Santiago with a flight scheduled for the 1st of May - just a few weeks to sell/give away/throw out/ship to Australia everything we own and hand over his classes. But apparently a city wide lockdown wasn't complicated enough so Gary contracted COVID19. After 10 days, it appears that he will recover, thanks be to God. But Chile has also closed their borders which complicates things a bit more, with more online forms to fill in and other complications to overcome. It has not been a the way we had hoped to finish up here as we have not been able to say proper farewells to people. It's all just ... complicated.



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*A world  
that knows  
Jesus*





**A happy reunion.**

#### RESULTADO

SARS-CoV-2

Positivo

**Not what you want to see!**

*Please pray for:*

- A way through the complicated situation in Chile for Gary to get everything organised and on to a flight.
- Our mental health from months of uncertainty.
- The lecturers stepping in at the last minute to cover Gary's classes.
- The raising up of more suitable lecturers for the CEP.

*Give thanks for:*

- The chance to get the girls back to Sydney safely.
- The great group of CEP students we have this year.
- Gary improving and recovering from the virus.
- The many ways God has answered our prayers over many years in Chile.



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