



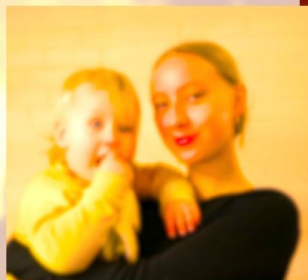
church news

JULY 2025



Sundays for everyone

...it's our priority and joy to see another generation drawing close to Jesus (Luke 18:16)



CRECHE SPACE & MUMSBUBS SPACE

You are welcome to make use of our creche space as you care for your toddler. The creche faces into the auditorium and can be found in the main passageway. Our MumsBubs space is reserved for mums and bubs, and is just at the rear of the auditorium, near the Creche'

PRIMARY SCHOOL

During the service, we invite primary school aged children to check in and learn about Jesus and His love. Kids Church meets in our Kids Space. Kids Church meets each week except the first Sunday of the month



HIGH SCHOOL & UP

10:40 group is a high school discussion group that meets during the service. The space is designed to promote questions, prayer and walking in close fellowship with Jesus. 10:40 are invited to head out during notices.

LET US RUN OUR RACE...WITH PERSEVERANCE

"And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1b,2)

Perseverance means not just holding on, but fixing our eyes on Jesus. We can't always see what is ahead in the future – the 'stretching' is hard. Oswald Chambers says is like this:

A saint's life is in the hands of God like a bow and arrow in the hands of an archer. God is aiming at something the saint cannot see, but our Lord continues to stretch and strain, and every once in a while the saint says, "I can't take any more." Yet God pays no attention; He goes on stretching until His purpose is in sight, and then He lets the arrow fly. Entrust yourself to God's hands.

Perseverance is the practice of active faith in God. Faith is strong and a vigorous confidence in God. Faith is the supreme effort of our lives — giving ourselves to total confidence in God. Father God offered His all in Jesus Christ to save us, and now He wants us to offer our all with total confidence in Him. When we are suffering and doubting, the turning point moment begins with perseverance to trust God. And in that moment, Christ-like character and hope is birthed into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. *"...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." (Rom 3:3-5)*

Perseverance is faith in God, perseverance is upward. God gives us the grace to persevere in that He says to give all our worries and cares to God, big and small! *Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. (1 Peter 5:7).*

In every moment, let us fix our eyes on Jesus and persevere – where else can go! You are not alone – let us run our race...with perseverance

6 JUL > FAMILY SERVICE

miracles
point us to Jesus

A Family Service is centred on a single idea – to impress a love for the Lord upon the children in Stirling Family Church. Deuteronomy 6:5-8 says: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.* Our Family Services aim to involve children a little more in the services, as a small step to help children share in the service and impress their place in family worship. Thank you for being a part of this important witness.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER IN **CIRCLES**

(see church calendar for dates)

formation

Enkindle Littlehampton
Tue Weekly 7.30p
Jim Varsos

discipleship

MMS30 Stirling
Sun F/N after service
Barry Mitchell
Neil Beckett

life groups

Beerenberg (Women)
Thu F/N 10.00a
Jan Adcock

Crafers
Wed F/N 7.00p
Peter & Bec

Nairne (Mens)
Wed F/N 7.00p
Tim Holton

Mt Barker Flourish
(Women)
Wed F/N 7.30p
April Felvie Gadsden

fellowship groups

Mens Coffee
Beerenberg
Thu F/N 10.00a
John Adcock

Craft (Women)
Mt Barker
Fri F/N 7.00p
Wendy & Sam

Art Class
Stirling
Sat F/N 2.00p
Hilda & AprilC

Please check to ensure your gathering is meeting during the July School Holidays.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

**MOST FRIDAY NIGHTS FROM 7.00P
CHECK CHURCH CALENDAR OR
REBRANDED INSTA FOR DETAILS**

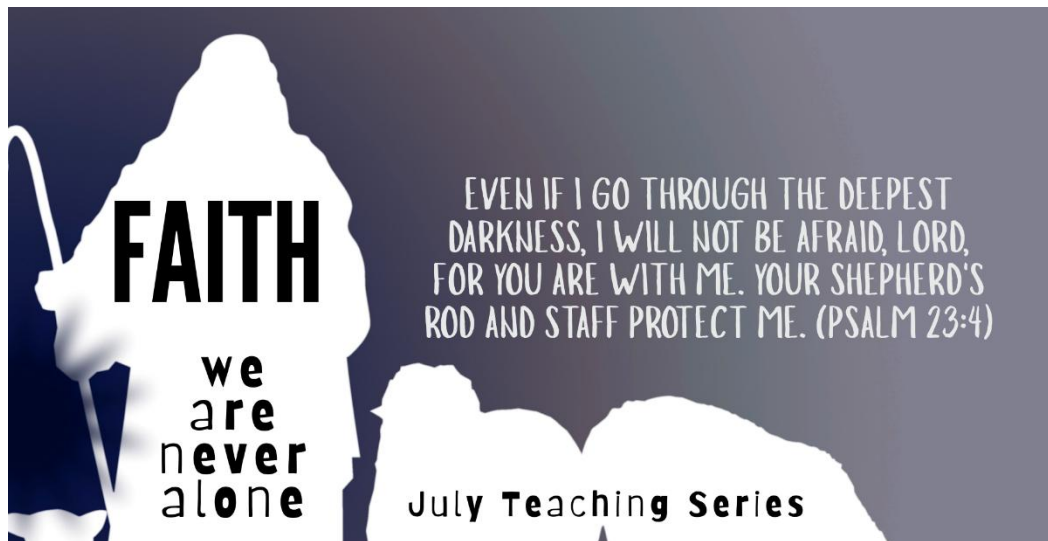
REBRANDED.

ALL THINGS MADE NEW

**YYADS FAM & SOCIAL NIGHTS
& DISCIPLESHIP COMMUNITY**

SEE MIA FOR DETAILS

JULY TEACHING SERIES – FAITH: WE ARE NEVER ALONE.



“Faith – we are never alone” series finds its heart in Psalm 23. Faith is the currency of the Word, and it should be our currency, our thoughts, our attitudes and our actions.

Psalm 23 reminds us to not to walk away from the Shepherd – even in the shadows, we are not alone! Life has shadows, and some are very dark. But the shadow only exists because Light has never left us. A challenge and task of believers is to recognise the light of the world in every circumstance, however we often look to circumstances for that light. When all along, that light is also within, the light from a treasure in an earthen vessel! The reality is that we can fall into sin and helplessness when we fail. But we can also choose to look with faith, and know that we are not alone – in every situation. Over July, we will be encouraged with guest ministry culminating with a series of short stories of faith from our own:

- **13 July – Pr Steve Sherman**
- **20 July – Pr Paul Bonython**
- **27 July – Short stories of faith**

May ‘Dry July’, whatever that means for people, make room for expectations in faith, trusting by faith, and practicing faith by declaring that we are never alone! When we consider faith, these truths revealed directly from scripture will encourage us, and do us good:

- just because its dark and we can’t see doesn’t mean we are abandoned – John 14:18
- we are called to help one another hold fast to hope – stirring up one another with love and kindness - Heb 10:23-25
- the prosecution of love against loneliness – 1 Cor 14
- the potential causality of faith is nothing more than a temptation – 1 Cor 10:13
- giving up the shadow of darkness to God – 1 Peter 5:7
- believing what Jesus said – we are never alone – Mt 28:20
- in all circumstances of darkness, we still have a brighter comforter – John 14:16

TESTIMONY OF TRUTH IS ALWAYS A WITNESS.

About a month or so ago, Natalia shared her desire to share stories of faith and testimony with the community after reading Challenge News. We have copies available for anyone to take and read. The purpose is that faith might be encouraged within our hearts as we read testimonies giving glory to the Lord. And...

Perhaps a concurrent purpose is that this physical newspaper creates an opportunity to share about the Lord with someone. Maybe leaving a copy on your kitchen table is all it will take. Maybe having a copy sitting on your desk at work. Maybe giving it directly to a neighbour or a friend... Challenge Newspaper is worthy of having a read, and praying over; that the Holy Spirit might use this testimony through you and reach somebody with the love and grace and power of God.

Challenge
THE GOOD NEWS PAPER

www.au.challenge.news



The July Edition of Challenge Newspaper is available from the Info Table. Please feel free to take a copy and enjoy an encouraging read. And if you can, pray and pass on a copy to a friend or neighbour to share about the good news of Jesus.

Challenge Literature Fellowship is a non-profit organisation who publish an evangelistic newspaper to encourage and help Christians to share their faith regularly and to give readers the opportunity to learn about Jesus Christ. Challenge started in Western Australia in 1978 with small print editions of the paper produced on a photocopier. Today Challenge produce the paper for 20 plus countries in partnership with the UK Goodnews Paper. We have moved from doing a total yearly print-run in the early eighties of around 60,000 papers, to approximately 4,000,000 papers.

YOU WILL HAVE PLENTY
dinners for eight
29-31 August

Happy Birthdays for July

1 - Yasmin 14 - Esther
3 - MaggieC 20 - Ava
13 - MattG 27 - JanetP
13 - Tamara

ABOUT MISSION COFFEE



Upon returning from the Philippines in 2023, a Filipino man gave our Church 4kg of coffee because he heard that our Church provided coffee for free, encouraging people to give generously from their hearts to missions.

He was moved by this idea, and his response was one of faith, and partnership into our desire to be generous and practice generosity, rather than charging for coffee! It has been 2 years, and we want to

encourage people to our cause of generosity towards missions, while enjoying a free coffee faithfully brewed by our coffee team.

With our current team, we are able to serve freshly ground coffee twice per month. If you are interested in joining the team, please speak with Ben.

If you enjoy our fresh coffee, please consider the cost of that coffee you are consuming, and find it in your heart to make a contribution to missions, either in cash or via EFTPOS.

Every donation goes directly to missions and blesses our missionary partners, and reflects something of our part in our contribution to the Great Commission.

CANS ON A MISSION



Pastor Penton Vince faithfully transports 10c containers, from the Church, to the recycler, for our church missions.

Feel free to contribute empty 10c containers leaving them in the blue wheelie without wheels bin, at the rear of the church, behind the kitchen.

All funds are forwarded to missions.

It's amazing how much of a difference an empty container make when they are on a mission. And thankyou to Penton for taking the time to facilitate this for us!

INDONESIA MISSIONS TRIP

I love the experiences of a mission's trip in which you seem to pick up the smell of love, as Ephesians 5 says: *Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

On a mission's trip, love for others seems to grow on you very easily and you find yourself delighting in the Lord as He ministers through you in new ways.

On 2 July, Ben flies out to Indonesia and is away most of July. And Allegra, Ava, Anna, Josh, Mia and Bec join on 11 July, and will be back at Church on 27 July.



This trip is to Java, in the city of Bogor, south of Jakarta, visiting Bukit Karmel and local churches. Ben will also fly to Solo in central Java to visit the bible school, local churches and schools.

It is the first missions' trip for Allegra and Ava and we are delighted to share this journey with them. We are asking that the Church upholds the team in prayer, both for protection, and for opportunity to show love and sow love into people's lives whose only hope, only support, only way out and only option is....Jesus.

Worshipping and experiencing the power of God in a different culture is very stirring. A mission trip creates space for grace, and for faith, pushing us out of our comfort zone and causing us to rely on God in new

ways! It is my conviction that a core responsibility of mature believers is to support moments of 'faith development'.

Ephesians 6:4 says: *Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

Being a parent and a minister, my delight and obligation then is to facilitate: 1/ opportunities of faith in the Lord, 2/ experience hearing the voice of the God, 3/ a growing desire to live by faith.

I may exasperate people, yes...but faith in Jesus never will; may we serve Him alone!

So let us pray for opportunity to give glory to God, to see people transformed by the power of God, and witness people come into the Kingdom of God – it's a privilege we get to do this – and a delight and joy!



PRAYER & FASTING

MONDAY FORTNIGHTS

www.stirlingfamilychurch.au/unitedinprayer

PICKUP A BOOKLET FROM THE INFO DESK

INFO SESSION TIMES

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
SHARING THE JOURNEY
DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

12.00p Sun 3 Aug after the service (Church)

10.00a Fri 8 Aug (Church)

7.00p Mon 11 Aug (Church & Zoom)
(Zoom with partners if required)



Giving by EFT

bsb: 035039 acc: 587611

ref: Giving or Missions

**YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED AND
PLENTY LEFT OVER TO SHARE WITH OTHERS (2 COR 9:8)**

A HOUSE OF PRAYER – WHO GATHER TO PRAY

Praying is not our final option, but our first response. Praying is not an action of reaction, but taking the initiative in faith. Matthew 6:5-8 records Jesus saying the phrase three times: ***“When you pray...”***
Not if you pray, but when you pray.

The assumption or implication here is that we all should pray. Prayer is powerful. When we need something, we pray! Healing – pray! Help – pray! Peace – pray! Jesus said in Matthew 6 to ***“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For***

everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 reminds us that it is God’s will in Christ Jesus that we rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances! In Acts 16, Paul went looking for a place of prayer, we also need to take the initiative in prayer. May Stirling Family Church be a House of Prayer, because its people have committed to pray, and delight in praying to the Lord! Check Church Calendar for opportunities!

OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER TOGETHER FOR PRAYER



HILLS COMBINED CHURCHES PRAYER
5.00-6.00P FRIDAY 25 JULY
INTERCEDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND
CHURCHES ACROSS THE HILLS
SUNSET ROCK CHURCH 40 SPENCER STREET



EP PRAYER NIGHT

Acts 12:5-12

...but the church was earnestly praying to God...

6.00-7.00P | SUNDAY 6 JULY



PRAYER & FASTING

www.stirlingfamilychurch.au/unitedinprayer



GATHERED PRAYER EVENING
7.00-8.00P MON
28 JULY



...gathering since 1958

about us and who we are

Christ-centered, Spirit led, People focused
– is how we describe Stirling Family Church.

We see a church living in His Power and Presence
– is who we are, expressed as vision.

We are a church who Make a Difference everyday in every generation in the name of Jesus
– is what we do, expressed as mission.

church contact

we gather each Sunday at 10.00a
2 Avenue Road Stirling 5152
admin@stirlingfamilychurch.au
www.stirlingfamilychurch.au
(08) 8339 2121

online giving

Westpac Branch
Stirling Family Church
BSB – 035039
Acc – 587611
Ref – Giving or missions

our eldership team

Ben Bonython
Bec Bonython
Bec Fortunatow
Peter Fortunatow
Bernie Glaser
Jim Varsos