



A GUIDE TO SURVIVE

GENESIS 39:2-4

A Victorian Adventist Conference Magazine

INTRAVIC

● ● ● ● ● FEB-MAR 2023



A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



WHITE SOCKS

Her smile told a story – and so did her socks. She stood quietly, listening as others talked about activities and mud. Would her socks ever be white again?

This year began with thousands attending the Australia wide Pathfinder Camporee closely followed by the Summer Camping program at Camp Howqua. Significant memory events like the Camporee, and Summer Camps provide much more than the fun of the activities each day. Relationships are built with young people and the worships lead so many to deepen their relationship with Jesus. So many make significant decisions – for prayer, to accept Jesus, to have Bible studies, to be baptized.

As usual, good ideas degenerate into work – and anyone who's been involved with Pathfinders or Summer Camps knows exactly what I mean. So I want to thank not just those who participated, but the staff, the leaders who worked soooo hard to ensure the events went well and real ministry – significant ministry happened.

Large events are important, but what happens in the local church provides the on-going connections for our young people and that's not just up to the Pathfinder leader, the Youth leader or the Pastor. It's a whole of church approach that's needed. We need more people who will be there, appropriately, for those who are growing up in our churches. We need them to know they belong. We want them to know their thoughts are important to us. We need an inclusive approach. All of that matters.

So the mud of the Camporee activities had stained her white socks a very dirty brown and I don't know how long that will be remembered. What I do know is that the memories will live on – memories of belonging, memories of the impact of the worship services. The decisions made shape the direction of many lives for a positive future.

Would you please look for ways to support and encourage effective youth ministry in your church and across our conference?

Thanks so much, because young people matter to God and to us.

Graeme Christian

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graeme Christian". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Victorian Conference President

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A GUIDE TO SURVIVE

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"THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH SO THAT HE PROSPERED"

– GENESIS 39:2

Survivor – The popular T.V. show where one must *Outwit, Outplay, and Outlast* 23 other people. Relying on alliances, deception, and betrayal, contestants will do anything to win, even if it means tearing people down in the process.

So why was this show the inspiration for this year's Summer Camp theme?

Well, if you strip *Survivor* back and look past its selfish surface, you find that it's built upon individuals facing unrelenting challenges that test their strength, courage, and endurance; the contestants are pushed to their limits and then even further.

At its core, *Survivor* teaches the importance of perseverance and resilience – values that are important to have, especially at Summer Camp.

Attempting activities such as water sports, high ropes, and a survivor-inspired obstacle course, it was impressive to see both campers and cabin leaders alike, pick themselves up, dust themselves off and try again.

However, there is more to surviving than simply overcoming physical challenges. Life is full of highs and lows – one day you've achieved something great, the next you feel like a failure – and it's difficult to navigate these changes.

Thankfully, the Bible gives us the story of Joseph: a teenage boy whose life could only be described as a rollercoaster. The story told us how he survived trials and temptations by knowing his identity and showing integrity.

Over the course of three camps, our speakers – Beez Deojee, Miranda Leijser, Grace Burling, and Aubree Harrington – shared how Joseph's life resonated with them, and how they overcame their own personal struggles.

A GUIDE TO SURVIVAL (JUNIORS)

We were blessed with a unique speaking situation for Juniors. Pr. Miranda Leijser accepted the invitation to talk to our youngest campers, however she didn't arrive alone. Travelling with her from WA was her 15-year-old mentee, Grace Burling.

Together they inspired our Juniors, speaking wise words like *'Rejection is God's protection'* and *'Scars are stories meant to be shared'*; by the end of camp, we had five simple tips on how to be a survivor like Joseph.

SURVIVE CHANGES BY: STICKING TOGETHER

SURVIVE PRESSURE BY: REMEMBERING YOUR VALUE

SURVIVE WAVES BY: FIXING YOUR FOCUS ON JESUS

SURVIVE TESTS WITH: LIFESTYLE FORGIVENESS

SURVIVE THE FUTURE BY: REMEMBERING GOD IS FAITHFUL

Here's what Grace had to say about her time at Howqua:

"Victoria's Junior Summer Camp was such an incredible experience for me, I met some truly awesome people and tried out things that I had never done before! At first, I was nervous to come out of my shell and talk to others, but I instantly clicked with the campers and staff around me and it felt like home.

Miranda and I used what we like to call 'The Sandwich Method': One of us would start, the other would share a story from their experiences, and then it would go back the first person who would dive into scripture. We thought this way would keep the juniors more interested and interactive.

Speaking to these Juniors was such a blessing and seeing them take in what Miranda and I spoke about was just amazing! Each night they were challenged to decorate their cabins to related to

the message and when we went inside, we were amazed at how they completely understood the message and how they showed that through their creativity. It was clear that the stories that we shared had influenced them.

Thank you so much VicYouth for this awesome opportunity, and more importantly, welcoming me into your Victorian family”

JOSEPH AND JESUS (TEENS)

Teen speaker Aubree brought the story of Joseph from a different perspective.

She told us that while it's okay to relate to Joseph, it isn't wrong to resonate with and reflect upon the behaviours of others in the story as a part of our growth process.

When we look at Joseph's Brothers, do we see ourselves acting out because we are about to be exposed? When we look at Potiphar's wife, do we see ourselves acting out because we don't get what we want? When we look at the Cupbearer, do we see ourselves forgetting who helped us in our lowest points?

Each night she pointed out these character traits, as if building to a big climax, and on the last night she didn't disappoint. For her final message, Aubree revealed that Joseph's life was practically parallel to the life and story of Jesus.

JOSEPH

**WAS SOLD FOR 20 SILVER PIECES
(GENESIS 37:28)**

**WAS FALSELY ACCUSED AND JAILED
(GENESIS 39:16-18)**

**FORGAVE AND SAVED HIS BROTHERS
(GENESIS 45:4-5)**

JESUS

**WAS SOLD FOR 30 SILVER PIECES
(MATTHEW 26:15)**

**WAS FALSELY ACCUSED AND CRUCIFIED
(MATTHEW 26:59-61; LUKE 23:33)**

**FORGAVE AND SAVED ALL SINNERS
(LUKE 23:34; MATTHEW 1:21; ACTS 5:31)**

With this comparison, the Teens were shown the unfailing love of Jesus and left with the encouraging reminder that all we need to do is have faith in Him.



#UNAPOLOGETICALLYROYAL (GAP)

Beez challenged our GAP campers to do some self-reflection. Using the story of Joseph as a guide, he explained that everything we do stems from where we place our identity. Moreover, everyday Beez reminded us of our royal status. God says in 2 Corinthians 6:18:

"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters"

God is a King, so if He proclaims He is our Father, that then makes us princes and princess. With empowering chants, interactive handshakes, and an upbeat song, Beez wanted us to be unashamed of such a beautiful title, telling campers and leaders alike that we are "Unapologetically Royal" – a message that is now forever written upon our hearts.

THE FOUR I'S OF JOSEPH:

IDENTITY: YOUR IDENTITY STARTS WITH BEING A CHILD OF GOD

INDEPENDENCE: WHEN YOUR IDENTITY IS IN GOD, YOU CAN BE INDEPENDENT WITHOUT INFLUENCE

INTEGRITY: BECAUSE WE SERVE A GOD OF HIS WORD, WE CAN BE PEOPLE OF OUR WORD

IMPACT: NOT ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, BUT WHO YOU ARE WHEN YOU DO IT

Joseph's story shows how God can work with and through young people, and the memories made at Howqua only solidifies that statement. Over three weeks we witnessed the change in attitudes and expressions when campers understood that they are cared for, they are important, and that they are loved.

So, to answer finally the question that was posed the start of this piece:

Survivor was theme for Summer Camp 2023, because there is power in sharing stories of survival. Not because of our own merits, but because they serve as a reminder that God is with us through everything.

And when God is with us, nothing is impossible.

Naomi Janmaat

Victorian Conference Communication Coordinator

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BE A PART OF SUMMER CAMPS 2024

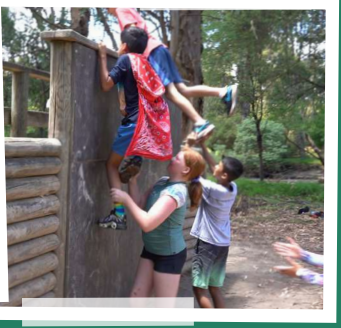
Whether you come as a camper or a cabin leader, we can't wait to see everyone again for VicYouth Summer Camps in 2024! Save the dates and tell a friend!

GAP CAMP (16–18 years olds): 4–8 January

JUNIOR CAMP (10–12 years olds): 9–14 January

TEEN CAMP (13–15 years olds): 16–21 January







Bendigo Karen Blessed with Thirteen Baptisms

Bendigo Karen Seventh-day Adventist Church recently celebrated thirteen baptisms and four professions of faith on October 29th, 2022. This special occasion was witnessed by family, friends, and church members.

Pastor Michael Worker from the Australian Union Conference delivered an inspiring message for the congregation during the service. After that, he facilitated the baptism of these new converts.

Eh Paung, the Ministerial Intern for the Bendigo Karen SDA Church, conducted the Bible Studies with the new converts since 2021. Eh Paung is a dedicated man for the Lord. He works hard for the church members and the wider Karen community, and we would like to thank Eh Paung for his efforts and faithful service for the Lord.

Alongside Bendigo SDA Church and Bendigo Karen SDA Church, we also had Karen church members from Werribee, Geelong and Ringwood who came and celebrated with us – about 250 people came and witnessed this special occasion. We would like to thank God for His blessings upon our church throughout the past year.

Michael Moowahshi
Bendigo Karen Church

Werribee Youth Perform Parable with a Modern Twist

Werribee SDA Church encouraged our youth to showcase their talents and skills on Saturday November 26, 2022 – the first youth service in our new building!

The program explored a range of storytelling mediums, from songs to spoken word, with the main event being a modern re-enactment of the famous parable: The Lost Son.

We know that this may have been an unconventional way of sharing the word, but we're merely taking a page out of Jesus' book. For he shared the most complex of concepts in a form that even the common person could comprehend.

Everyone who took part did such an amazing job! After 10 weeks of planning and rehearsing, the message was clear.

Through a simple skit, we demonstrated how creative expression can be just as powerful as a preacher at a pulpit. More importantly, we let everyone know and understand that no matter how far you think you are from the Father, He will always welcome you home with open arms.

Naomi Janmaat
Werribee Church



LOCAL NEWS PT.1



Rememberance Day at AdventCare

Over 300 times the Bible tells us to remember. So, the idea of a Day of Remembrance is very important. But what should we remember? Our times tables? How to use 'their' or 'there', 'its' or 'it's'?. Although these are important, surely remembering our loved ones OS near the top of our list!

Many nations around the world keep November 11 as an official Remembrance Day. This day was chosen originally to mark the end of the WWI which ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, 1918. Since 1919, people gather to remember and hold a minute's silence at 11am on this date. It's not a glorification of war, but rather an honouring for those who gave their lives as a loving sacrifice for their loved ones and country, not only in WWI but in every conflict up to the present time.

With his medals proudly pinned to his chest, 101-year-old Stan Moore stood tall, then, without the aid of his walker, carried the wreath to the flag and laid it carefully at its foot. Stan's grandchildren and great grandchildren were there to witness and support their "Papa". We all recited *The Ode*, listened to the *Last Post*, remained silent, and listened to *Reveille* while the flag was raised from half-mast to full height.

Hymns and poetry helped us remember in a respectful frame of mind. *Abide with Me*, and *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*, were our hymns of the day. *In Flanders Fields* and *Requiescat* were

the poems. Eight residents and staff assisted in presenting what was the largest service of the year held at AdventCare Whitehorse.

Who else should we remember? Someone else who made the ultimate sacrifice? Someone else who gave, perhaps, his only son to serve and die for countless others? Does our Father and his son, Jesus, fit the bill? After all they love us so much that they gave up everything, so that we may have everlasting peace. To remember once is good, but always is even better.

Russell Bryan
AdventCare Whitehorse

New Year's Eve Baptism in Ballarat

On December 31, the last Sabbath of 2022, Nathaniel was baptised at the Ballarat Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Assistant Minister Eric Johnson led the ceremony, guiding Nathaniel through the process of baptism as he declared his faith in Jesus Christ and committed to following Him.

Nathaniel was immersed in water, symbolising the cleansing of his sins and the start of a new life in Christ. The baptism was a deeply meaningful and significant moment for Nathaniel and the church community, marked by a sense of joy and unity!

Eric Johnson
Ballarat Church



REGIONAL DAYS 2022

● ● ● ● ● ● ● A RECAP ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

It was such a wonderful feeling to be able to host regionals in person again. After almost two years online, the atmosphere of face-to-face worship provided a feeling that was indescribable.

To facilitate both the Western and Eastern areas, the days were split into two events over back-to-back weekends in November.

As the *Harvest Victoria* initiative comes to an end, these regionals worked to bridge a transition into the next phase of the conference plan. With a focus on connecting with each other and the greater community, our speakers —Dr Sven Ostring and Pr. Robbie Berghan — gave talks to inspire both in-reach and outreach.

Dr. Sven's talk focused on prophesying; he described it as sharing God's personal message with the world for this specific time and provided five steps for an "inspired disciple making movement". Pr. Robbie also gave us five things to remember, but instead of prophesy, he talked about the good news - *The Gospel*.

When it came to the morning Sabbath School, rather than taking the panel approach, this year's regional classes worked to create and facilitate deeper thought, inquiry and most, importantly, connections between individuals and within groups. The discussions that arose proved this decision to be good idea!

Not only did the regionals provide an opportunity to learn and grow, but it was also a time to showcase case gifts and praise God! We were blessed to witness performances from the Melbourne Youth Choir, the United Strings Choir, and many other talented individuals!

We thank everyone who attended and took part in these regional days, none of these events would happen without you and we look forward to seeing you all next year!

Naomi Janmaat

Victorian Conference Communication Coordinator

AN INSPIRED DISCIPLE MAKING MOVEMENT - DR. SVEN OSTRING

- 1. UNDERSTAND THE GOSPEL**
- 2. FOLLOW JESUS**
- 3. HAVE BEEN REDEEMED**
- 4. KEEP GOD'S COMMANDMENTS AND YOUR FAITH IN JESUS**
- 5. HAVE A SUPERNATURAL PROPHETIC LIFE**

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD - PR. ROBBIE BERGHAN

A KING:

HE IS THE PROMISED ONE

A REDEEMER:

SAVES HIS PEOPLE FROM SIN

A RULE:

HOW TO LIVE IN THIS KINGDOM

A PEOPLE:

BORN AGAIN TO SEE THE KINGDOM

A PLACE:

HE HAS A PLACE FOR US PERSONALLY



ADVENTURER & PATHFINDER

● ● ● ● ● RALLY DAY 2022 ● ● ● ● ●

It was so good to have the Adventurer Rally Day in person again. The rotations were so much fun, and all the kids seemed to love the activities!

Each station had an important take away, whether it be trusting in God or what love truly means, but it was shared in an interactive way – through crafts, science experiments, games, and puppet shows! It was great to see the enthusiasm of the kids thanks to all the effort and dedication the leaders put into making the day happen.

Pr. Ryan Vidot did an amazing job with the talk! Kids and adults alike were captivated as he zoomed his homemade rocket around the room and told us the fascinating story of Apollo 13 and how powerful prayer can be.

The rally was indeed out of this world and Adventurers and leaders alike are looking forward to next year!

Julie Catton

Former Head of Children's Ministries



Nothing beats congregating in person, especially when it comes to Pathfinder Rally Days. Hosted at Gilson College (Taylors Hill), 12 clubs were represented at the 2022 Pathfinder Rally, and about 300 people attended!

Sticking with VicYouth's theme for 2022 – Metamorphosis – our speaker, Sharee Greenfield, shared the change that happened in her own life, inspiring us all through the power of testimony.

This rally took a more interactive approach among participating pathfinders, with team trivia, chants, and club highlight videos. It was amazing to see the camaraderie, excitement, and engagement displayed by everyone.

We would like to acknowledge the District Directors: Susan Jackson, Jarrod Knight, Michael Downing, and Rodney Stevens. We appreciate the amount of time, effort, and dedication you put in for our clubs!

Many Service Awards and Master Guide Statuses were presented, but we want to extend a massive congratulation to the Warburton Pathfinder Club for winning the Dave Sheppard Award!

Phil Hyland

Director of VicYouth



LOCAL NEWS PT.2

Lynbrook Samoan Hold Successful Mission Seminar

On the 15th of October 2022, Lynbrook Samoan SDA Church witnessed the rebirth of nine individuals who decided to give their lives to God and make a stand through baptism.

The mission event was held for two weeks (Oct 2 - 15), we invited anyone and everyone for an opportunity that could not be missed.

With our main speaker Pastor Sosaiete Lautasi, many hearts were inspired to accept the truth and to follow the word of God.

Each night were different topics which revolved around the overall theme of 'Our world will not go back to any good'.

With the different topics each night, Pastor Sosaiete hosted a friendly Q&A where those who provide the correct answer and participated would be given the chance to win a small gift from the Lynbrook Church.

The mission also included a Childrens Program where they learnt songs and memory verses which was later performed on the last night of the mission.

Overall the mission was a huge success. Nine individuals chose to devote their lives to serving God; two of them being as little as the age of 9 and 12; and five of them fully converting to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

This was definitely a life changing experience.

Connie Toilolo
Lynbrook Samoan Church



An Incredible Day with the Incredible Journey

On November 26th, 2022 Bundoora Church was excited to host Pr. Gary Kent from The Incredible Journey TV and media ministry. The entire church was buzzing as weeks of preparation finally came together to make the event a reality.

The day exceeded our expectations for many reasons:

1. We had over 200 people attend the event on the day (our church lunch surprisingly fed everyone with lots of left overs!)
2. All our Bible students who had heard of and watched Gary's programs religiously on TV before they even met us came along on the day. They took photos with Gary and sent messages on how thankful they were that our church organized such an event.

3. We were able to tap into a number of viewers of TIJ in the northern area who aren't attending an Adventist church at the moment. This would have been their first time. We are hoping to find ways to follow up with them soon.

4. Gary shared two amazing messages that spoke to the hearts of everyone (members included). I had messages from our church plant members that they were going to start Bible reading plans as recommended by Gary and start studying the Bible more seriously. The event brought a revival to our hearts at the end of the year to prepare us for 2023. It's just what our church needed!

Here are some testimonies from those who attended:

"I stumbled upon The Incredible Journey show on YouTube one day and was amazed with their discovery on the Dead Sea Scrolls. So when Pr. Vikram told me that Gary Kent will be speaking at an event, I knew I didn't want to miss it. It was truly an awesome opportunity to hear someone like Gary Kent that's been to all the great places that Jesus Christ has walked on and witness firsthand all the wonders written in the Bible. It was like seeing the stories come to life... This made me have a renewed appreciation for the Word of God. I am so blessed to have attended the Gary Kent event and will definitely share this with my friends and family. Keep up the good work!"

Tash Kristy-Searles, TIJ Viewer and Bible Student at Broadford Church Plant

"Greeting and Blessings, it's my privilege and pleasure to offer you my summary of the opportunity to meet such a renowned and internationally acclaimed speaker such as Gary Kent. Four short hours, but a life time of dedication to God in ministry via mission, church, TV, and online, Pr. Gary has given his life and soul to giving people like me the blessing to witness and strengthen my own faith and love for Jesus Christ. "Praise be to God."

Freddie Holmes, TIJ Viewer and Bible Student at Bundoora Church Plant

"I have been watching The Incredible Journey series on YouTube with Gary Kent for some time now. Every presentation is informative, with biblical and archaeological facts. This is a needed ministry in

today's western society that is full of knowledge and education. Faith can be aroused in the skeptics heart when they hear and see Gary Kent's presentations."

Sebastian Riscica, TIJ Viewer and Bible Student at Bundoora Church Plant

"I found Pr. Gary's messages and the information he shared on recent archaeological discoveries so refreshing and more so a confirmation of what is recorded in the gospels, concerning locations, places, and people. Everything I learned gives me additional information in sharing the gospel to people about the credibility of God's Word. Glory to God!"

Nick Teboneras, Recently Baptised Member, Bundoora Church Plant

"Pr. Gary Kent's message was not only a great presentation of archaeological finds validating the Bible but also a great motivation to start an intentional and wholehearted Bible study program. He showed how priceless this Book is – the meticulous work of the scribes in copying the scriptures and the sacrifice people in the past made, fighting against all odds to protect the Bible, so that it could be passed on to us and the coming generations. It gives a fresh impetus to study and share this precious truth with others."

Anu Ebenezer, Church Member at Bundoora and Broadford Church Plants

Vikram Panchal

Bundoora and Broadford Church Plants



PAVILIONS BLACKBURN LAKE NAMED FINALIST IN INDUSTRY AWARDS

Pavilions Blackburn Lake Retirement Village, currently being developed on the former Campground site, has been named double finalist at the Property Council of Australia's National Retirement Living Awards 2023.

The project has been shortlisted in two categories: the award for 'Best Luxury Retirement Living Development' and 'Best Retirement Village Development'.

"It is an honour to be a finalist of the peak industry award, and an appreciated recognition of the very great work from a great many people, all who have worked tirelessly to make Pavilions what it is" says Galen Gan, the Pavilions Project Lead. "It has been a project nearly 15 years in the making, and it is both humbling and wonderful to receive this level of industry recognition - Pavilions is a project that all Adventists in Victoria can be proud of. Let's pray that we win!"

When asked what makes Pavilions so special, Mr Gan responded "I think we have achieved a harmonious balance between the key elements: build-form, natural environment and residents: the build-form has been designed to enhance both the natural environment that it sits in and be as 'liveable' as possible for our residents; the nature and woodland of the Campground has been respected; and we have been blessed with absolutely wonderful residents, who are very 'house proud', and love to call Pavilions home."

Pavilions Stage 1 comprising of 41 apartments and extensive resident communal facilities is 100% sold, 100% occupied and 100% paid off.

'Miss Lucy' the resident cafe is open Sunday to Friday serving delicious "Adventist friendly" meals.

Pavilions Stage 2 is currently under construction and has currently received 67% purchase commitments, with construction expected to complete at the end of 2023. This stage will include a 'Wellness Zone' that comprises of a day spa, gym facilities, Pilates studio, communal terrace, pool, spa and beautiful fruiting orchard.

"Studies show the two key times people think of their health is when they have kids, and when they retire," says Mr Gan. "The Wellness Zone in Stage 2 provides us with a wonderful opportunity to promote our health message with this health & wellness conscious cohort."

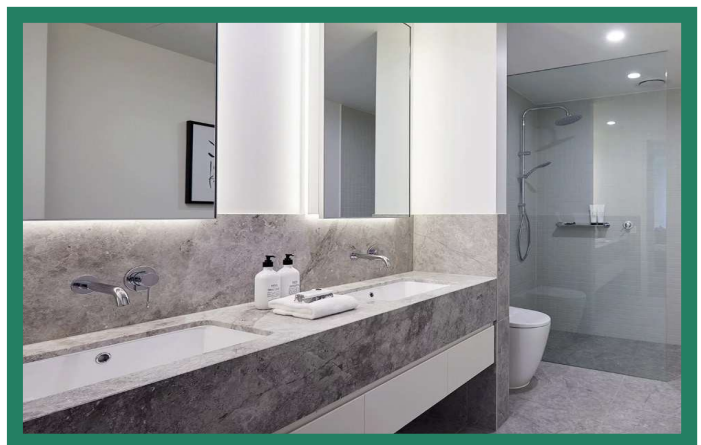
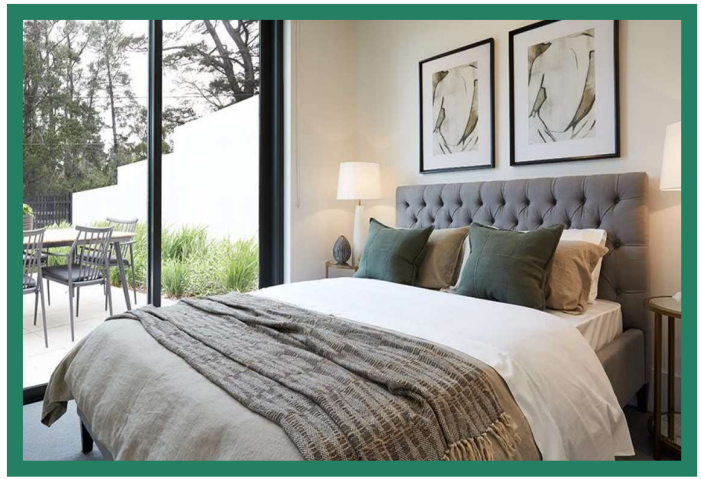
There are still many lovely apartments available - for more information please contact Mary George on:

mary@pavilionsblackburnlake.com.au

Please continue to pray for continued success of this very significant project for the Victorian Church.

Naomi Janmaat
Communication Coordinator

Galen Gan
Infrastructure Coordinator



YOUR CALL

is real

THE TIME IS NOW



A HOME AWAY FROM HOME: AN AVONDALE INITIATIVE

I have so many fond memories from my first year at Avondale University: Variety Hour, worships in the residence and, of course, the making of cherished friendships!

Moving from Shepparton, Victoria, to Cooranbong, New South Wales, has been a success, but I remember having some difficulty adjusting to this new environment. That was until Avondale University Church opened its loving community to me...

The church introduced *Home Away from Home*, an initiative that connects students who are far from home to local families. The families invite the students into their homes to enjoy a delicious homecooked meal. Living 10 hours from home, one of the things I miss most is my parent's cooking, so, I jumped at the opportunity to go!

I accepted an invitation to the Gungadoo household. Hensley and Esadora welcomed and fed all Victorian students – from Melbourne to Mildura to Shepparton!

Almost 30 of us squeezed into the Gungadoo's backyard on a sunny Sabbath afternoon to sharing a scrumptious meal of curries, rice, garlic bread and pastries. I met new friends and bonded further with others, and by then end, both my stomach and soul were full!

I've been raised to know that Seventh-day Adventism thrives on its welcoming nature;

it's something I've experienced this throughout my childhood, early adulthood, and now, as a student at Avondale. I am accepted and cared for by my church family!

Serve God and Others

Studying Ministry and Theology at Avondale means deepening spiritual understanding; receiving personalised support; developing practical skills, and balancing life and study with flexible, online or on-campus classes.

And it's just become easier with a 50% fee discount and free accommodation in the residences on our Lake Macquarie campus in 2023.*

Don't miss out!

Kate Lon Ho Kee
Bachelor of Primary Teaching

*Terms and conditions apply.
study.avondale.edu.au/ministrytheology2023

PASTORAL STAFF 2023

An Update on our 2023 Minsiterial Team

New Additions

Now that lockdowns are a thing of the past we have started seeing more movement in the pastoral field again, and so it is a pleasure to welcome new pastors to Victoria:

Pr. John Smolka is originally from Australia, but has been ministering in North New Zealand conference and will be the senior pastor at Ballarat.

Pr. Peter Watts has returned to Victoria Conference – he has been in Tasmania for some years but now he is back in the promised land and looking after Warburton. Peter is an evangelist so if you are looking for a speaker for a church program make contact!

Pr. Daniel Matteo also joins us from Tasmania, welcome to the mainland! Daniel is caring for Healesville and Yarra Valley churches and brings a wealth of experience to his role there.

Pr. Sean Berkeley is our new Assistant Youth Director at the conference– he has already arrived and attended our Summer Camps. He tells me the kids were great and he is enjoying it already. Sean has moved down from Queensland so let's give him a warm Melbourne welcome!

Pr. Uili Mauga is our new Children's and Family Ministries Director. He has come from the far land of Western Australia and has already dived into work. He is the perfect contact to help run kids church!

John Prosser has been called to do lay ministry. He is well known to the Western Victorians, and I know they will appreciate his ministry in Robinvale.

Landry Patii has come from Greater Sydney to work with the congregations at Portland, Camperdown and Warrnambool, I hope you enjoy the coastal life there Landry!

Also, *Sashka Tikulin* has been doing Bible Worker Training for the conference has started a role assisting at Preston.

And last but not least, we have three new interns joining us this year– *Rahel Gungadoo* who will be serving at Lilydale, *Natasha Sua* will be at Mildura and Dareton, and *Josh Kross* is the new intern at Wantirna and Dandenong Polish!

New Adventures

Sadly we have also said farewell to some of our team who are following God's call in other areas.

Pr. Ainsley Wagner has retired and I know Ascot Vale will miss him greatly.

Pr. Ben Townson has accepted a role in Western Australia and has moved over with his family.

Pr. Andy Litchfield has also moved to Western Australia, and we know WA is lucky to have both Ben and Andy!

Pr. Rosemary Andrykanus has followed a call further afield and has moved to the United States to Minister in the Portland area, she will be missed by the youth here in Victoria.

Brayden Rath has also stepped down for the team for a time to pursue other opportunities.

All our prayers are with those who have left, you will be missed but we know God is with you and you take a little piece of Victoria with you when you go!

New Adventures

This year so far we have been blessed to have two of our pastoral team be ordained by the laying on of hands.

Pr. Chris Guo was ordained on February 27th at the Friday evening session of AYC in St. Kilda Town Hall. Pr. Brendan Pratt laid the charge on Chris, and Pr. Graeme Christian led the pastoral prayer over Chris and his wife Annabelle.

Pr. Jeremy Taituave was ordained on February 28th on Sabbath morning at the Geelong Seventh-day Adventist Church. Pr. Murray Hunter laid the charge on Jeremy, and Pr. Graeme Christian led the pastoral prayer.

I am excited to see where God leads our pastoral team this year, we have a fantastic team who are excited for the many opportunities to serve around Victoria this year. Please keep us all in your prayers as we work to share the good news of Jesus's soon coming!

Justin Bone
Ministerial Association Secretary

CHURCHES

ADVENTIST AGAPE GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP GROUP	Pr Terrance Sim
ADVENTIST DONCASTER HOPE FELLOWSHIP GROUP	Pr Terrance Sim
ALPINE VALLEY SDA CHURCH GROUP	Pr James London
ARARAT	Pr Daniel McLeish
ASCOT VALE	Pr Chris Moses
AUBURN	Pr Pawel Ustupski
AVENUE CHURCH GROUP	Pr Adrian Peterson
BAIRNSDALE	Pr Rian Van Deventer
BALLARAT	Pr John Smolka Pr Eric Johnson
BAYLES	Pr Jonathon Gillard
BENALLA	Pr James London
BENDIGO	Pr Daniel Maher
BENDIGO KAREN REMNANT COMPANY	Pr Daniel Maher
BENDIGO KAREN SDA CHURCH	Mr Eh Paung
BERWICK COMPANY	Pr Aitui Fanene
BROADFORD GROUP	Pr Vikram Panchal
BUNDOORA COMPANY	Pr Vikram Panchal
BURWOOD	Pr Fraser Catton Pr Jared Smith
CAMPERDOWN	Mr Landry Patii
CANN RIVER COMPANY	Pr Rian Van Deventer
CARRUM DOWNS COOK ISLANDS COMPANY	Pr Russell Puna
CASEY	Pr Michael Mohanu Pr Georges Latchman Pr Jayden Croft Pr Trevor Rowe

CASEY CROSS COMMUNITY COMPANY (SAMOAN)	Pr Aitui Fanene
CASTLEMAINE COMPANY	Mr Graham McNichol
CLAYTON COOK ISLANDS	Pr Russell Puna
CLYDE CONNECT COMPANY	Mr Jared French
COBBLEBANK SAMOAN AND MULTICULTURAL GROUP	Pr Saifoloi Lafaele
COLAC	Pr Jeremy Taituave
CRAIGIEBURN SDA COMPANY	Mr Tau Poasa
CRANBOURNE SDA CHURCH	Mr Luke Letele
CROATIAN ST ALBANS	Pr Manuel Tikulin
CROSSROADS 2421 COMPANY	Dr Vailele Afoa
CROSSWALK MELBOURNE GROUP	Pr Moe Stiles
DANDENONG POLISH	Pr Roman Chalupka Mr Josh Kross
DARETON	Pr Mladen Krklec Ms Natasha Sua
DOVETON HOME ADVENTIST GROUP	Pr Russell Puna
EAST PRAHRAN	Pr Vadim Butov Pr Elena Butova
ECHUCA	Pr Erik Kral
FERNTREE GULLY	Pr Paul Kotanko
FILIPINO AUSTRALIAN	Pr Jezreel Locop Mr Jared French
FRANKSTON	Pr Jonathas Newlands
GATEWAY CITY	Pr Laien Hao
GATEWAY EAST COMPANY	Mr Chris Guo
GATEWAY LIGHTHOUSE COMPANY	Mr Chris Guo

GATEWAY WEST COMPANY	Mr Steven Liu
GEELONG	Mr Joshua Newbegin Mr Jeremy Taituave
GEELONG HUNGARIAN	Mr Joshua Newbegin Mr Jeremy Taituave
GILSON COLLEGE COMMUNITYCHURCH	Pr Mau Tuaoi
GLEN HUNTLY	Pr Paul Kotanko
GREENVALE	Pr Georges Latchman
HAMILTON	Pr Daniel McLeish
HEALESVILLE	Pr Daniel Matteo
HORSHAM	Mr Marius Jigau
HUGHESDALE	Pr Nicu Dumbrava
LEONGATHA	Mr Luke Letele
LILYDALE	Pr Darren Croft Pr Faye Stothers Khan Mr Rahel Gungadoo
LONGWARRY	Pr Andrew Kapusi
LYNBROOK SAMOAN SDA CHURCH	Mr Sosaiete Lautasi
MACEDON RANGES COMPANY	Mr Graham McNichol
MACEDONIAN	Pr Nikola Trajkov
MANSFIELD GROUP	Pr James London
MARYBOROUGH	Pr John Smolka Mr Eric Johnson
MELBOURNE ASIAN (MASDAC) CHURCH	Pr Terrance Sim Pr Jonathon Gillard
MELBOURNE CITY ADVENTIST CHURCH COMPANY	Pr Jinha Kim Pr Roy Kim
MELBOURNE VIETNAMESE GROUP	Pr Georges Latchman
MELTON COMPANY	Pr Malcom Reid
MELTON SAMOAN	Mr Apelu Tanuvasa
MERENDA SDA COMMUNITY CHURCH	Pr Trent Martin
MILDURA	Pr Mladen Krklec Ms Natasha Sua

MOE	Pr Luis Bermudez
MONT ALBERT	Pr Georges Latchman
MORNINGTON PENINSULA FELLOWSHIP COMPANY	Mr Peter Hughes
MYANMAR SDA MELBOURNE COMPANY	Pr Nan Myat Kyaw
NHILL COMPANY	Mr Marius Jigau
NORTH FITZROY	Pr Vadim Butov Pr Elena Butova
NORTHPOINT	Ms Wendy Saluni
NUNAWADING	Pr Paul Kleinmeulman Pr Pirooska Vranjakne Feith Mrs Tarnya Garner
OAKLEIGH POLISH	Pr Pawel Ustupski Pr Jan Krysta
OROMO	Pr Malcom Reid
PAKENHAM	Pr Ryan Vidot
PLETNY VALLEY	Pr Adrian Peterson
POINT COOK SDA CHURCH COMPANY	Pr Danijel Trajkov Pr Nikola Trajkov
PORTLAND	Mr Landry Patii
PRESTON	Pr Wayne Stanley Mrs Sashka Tikulin
RINGWOOD	Pr Jorge Munoz Mr Steve Munsuang
ROBINVALE	Mr John Prosser
ROMANIAN	Pr Paul Boeru
ROWVILLE	Pr Denis Hankinson
SALE	Pr Rian Van Deventer
SAMOAN CARRUM DOWNS CHURCH	Pr Aitui Fanene
SAMOAN CRAIGIEBURN COMPANY	Mr Tau Poasa
SAMOAN ENDEAVOUR HILLS CHURCH	Mr Sosaiete Lautasi
SAMOAN HILLSIDE COMPANY	TBA

PASTORAL STAFF 2023

SAMOAN NORTH MELBOURNE	Mr Tau Poasa
SAMOAN SUNSHINE COMPANY	Mr Apelu Tanuvasa
SAMOAN WERRIBEE GROUP	Mr Apelu Tanuvasa
SEDDON	Pr Miroslav Gagic
SHEPPARTON	Pr Erik Kral
SOUTH EAST SDA (OROMO SERVICE) COMPANY	Mr Thaug Guite
SPOTSWOOD	Pr Brian Lawty
SPRINGVALE	Pr Victor Acuna
SPRINGVALE SPANISH	Pr Jonathan Newlands
SPRINGVALE SUDANESE GROUP	Mr Gatkouth Chol
STAWELL	Mr Marius Jigau
SWAN HILL	Mr Daniel Maher
THE OASIS	Mr Steve Munsuang
THE ORCHARD GROUP	Pr Georges Latchman
THE ROCK COMMUNITY GROUP	Pr Brian Lawty
TRARALGON	Pr Luis Bermudez
VICTORIAN ADVENTIST WANTOK COMPANY	Pr Chris Moses
WANGARATTA	Pr James London
WANTIRNA	Pr Daniel Brunt Mr Josh Kross Ms Wendy Saluni
WANTIRNA POLISH	Pr Paul Ustupski Mr Thang Guite
WARBURTON	Pr Peter Watts
WARRAGUL	Pr Andrew Kapusi
WARRNAMBOOL	Mr Landry Patii
WERRIBEE	Pr Nikola Trajkov Pr Danijela Trajkov
WERRIBEE KAREN SDA CHURCH	Pr Nan Myat Kyaw

WESTALL	Pr Manuel Tikulin
WESTERN SPANISH	Pr Victor Acuna
WESTPOINT SDA	Pr Brian Lawty
YARRA VALLEY	Pr Daniel Matteo

EDUCATION

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN - GILSON MERNDA	Pr Trent Martin
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN - HERITAGE COLLEGE	Pr Laolagi Limu
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN - HERITAGE COLLEGE	Mr Joshua Stadnik
UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN	Pr Moe Stiles

ADVENTCARE

AGED CARE CHAPLAIN - WHITEHORSE	Pr Russell Bryan
AGED CARE CHAPLAIN - YARRA RANGES	Pr Moe Stiles



UPCOMING EVENTS

BIG CAMP 2023

After years apart, it's time to 'reconnect' with friends and familiar faces across a faith-filled weekend. Hosted at Lardner Park, we have speakers and programs suited for all ages, so don't miss out and register now!

<https://events.adventist.org.au/event/info/10792>

VICASA SUMMMIT

'Thinking Faith' is a gathering geared toward conversations about faith as connected to our everyday life - whether in education or professional lives, and how we engage with the world around us.

The conference will include: Worship Night Friday Night, Plenary Sessions, Stories and Testimonies, Conversations and of course breaking bread together.

VICYOUTH SHARE HIM

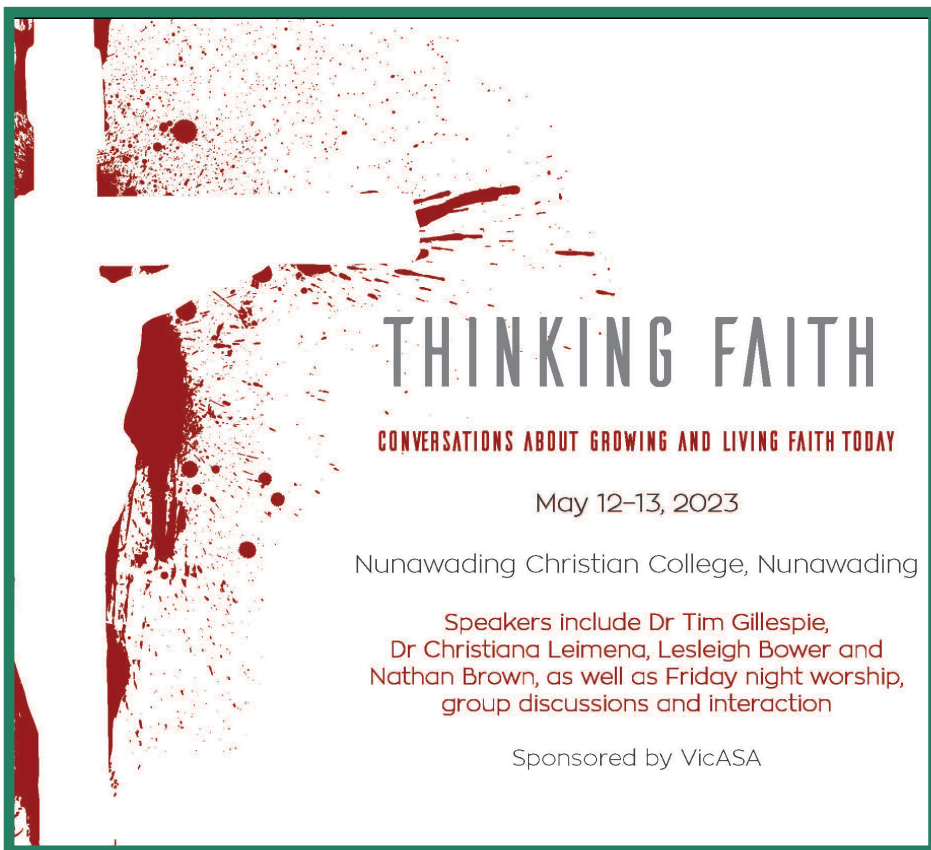
A ShareHim trip is being planned for 12-25 July 2023 to the North Philippines Union. ShareHim trips involve preaching a series of messages at a local church (flexible sermon plans, including slides, are written for you), and some local sight-seeing opportunities.

Participants must be over 18. This trip will run with young adults from across South Australia, Tasmania, and New South Wales.

Please reach out to vicyouth@adventist.org.au if you're interested or have any questions!

RENEW WOMEN'S RETREAT

RENEW is our annual Conference for the Women and Young Ladies of Victoria. It's a weekend full of good food, making new friends, catching up with old friends, worshipping together and being inspired by the message brought by our special guest speaker and local ladies from our surrounding churches.



How can anyone put his faith in Christ if he's never even heard about Him? How can he hear about Him if no one tells?

Romans 10:14

Send in your stories and we'll share them with everyone in one of our upcoming issues!

Here's our email:

victorianadventistcommunications
@adventist.org.au

DEADLINES: **IN CHURCHES**

January 20 February 25

April 21 May 20

July 21 August 26

October 20 November 25

Want to receive your news in your inbox quarterly or weekly?

Register at
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(under the News & Notices tab)

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reconnect

Easter Big Camp 2023

Camp Speakers



ENCOUNTER
Anthony Kent



ENCOUNTER
Wayne Krause



ENCOUNTER
Kevin Petrie



CONNECTIONS
Claudia M. Allen



YOUTH (18+)
Edsel B. Cadet



HIGH SCHOOL (13-17)
Callie Buruchara



JUNIORS (10-12)
Jacob Ugljesa

After years apart, it's time to reconnect with friends and familiar faces across a faith-filled weekend!

Not only is there an amazing line up of guest speaker, Big Camp offers a great range of activities, programs, and workshops, so there is something suited for everyone!

So pack up your tents and fuel up your caravans, this is a weekend you don't want to miss!

Apply Now: <https://events.adventist.org.au/event/info/10792>

April 6 - 10 at Lardner Park

155 Burnt Store Rd, Lardner VIC 3820