

Share the gospel month



Kununurra ministry family Daniel and Bec Faricy were encouraged as many people invited friends to hear about Jesus

Kununurra Minister Daniel Faricy recently lead a 'Share the gospel month' to give people a launchpad to invite their friends to consider the claims of Christ.

The congregation was delighted that 12 people came to their outreach event and others came to a Sunday service, where some big questions were asked, such as 'How can a good God allow good people to suffer?'

Daniel said: "We are a tourist town with visitors coming to church every week and I seek to preach the gospel clearly every Sunday.

"Sharing our faith is something we ought to be doing all the time but it's also helpful to have a focussed time to give people a boost to share the good news that brings salvation."

Perhaps most significantly, many church members stepped outside their comfort zone and, for the first time, invited friends to hear Jesus' offer of salvation. There has also been a greater commitment to pray for the lost, and for evangelism to become part of the church's DNA.

Daniel said the idea followed a difficult year (2020) for the church after one-third of members left Kununurra due to Covid-19 and energy levels around town and in the church were low.

He began by strengthening people from God's word in the lead up, preaching through 1 Corinthians 1-4 and reminding people of the message of the cross that is the power and wisdom of God.

People embraced three aims during the month: to invite a friend to church; invite a friend to the outreach curry night; invite a friend to a meal and pray for the opportunity to share the gospel with them. The curry night was a highlight and generated much thankfulness to God.



WANTED! **Assistant Minister** **for growing church**

The room was packed at the outreach Curry Night during Share the Gospel Month at Kununurra.

This is one of the ways St James is seeking to grow. In God's kindness the church is expanding with new young families. Each Sunday has up to 40 kids, and Daniel needs an Assistant Minister for Youth & Family to join the team.

Info: www.anglicandnwa.org/vacancies

Giving Thanks to the Lord



Gary Nelson
Bishop of the
North West

*"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
And they said,
"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and
you will be saved, you and your
household." [Acts 16:30f ESV]*

As Paul and Silas preach the good news of Jesus Christ in the Greek city of Philippi, lives are changed, and a church is established. As a result, a gospel partnership [fellowship] springs into life. So, Paul writes,

*I thank my God in all my
remembrance of you, always
in every prayer of mine for you*

*all making my prayer with joy,
because of your partnership in the
gospel from the first day until now.
And I am sure of this, that he who
began a good work in you will
bring it to completion at the day
of Jesus Christ. [Philippians
1.3-6 ESV]*

Now this gospel partnership between the Christians in Philippi and the apostle Paul, continues to grow. And it is a fellowship expressed in prayer, kindness, and financial support [see Phil 4.14-20].

When Paul writes to 'the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi' he seeks to encourage them in their gospel partnership. In 1.27 the Philippian Christians are urged to let their,

*... manner of life be worthy of the
gospel of Christ, so that whether I
come and see you or am absent,*

*I may hear of you that you are
standing firm in one spirit, with
one mind striving side by side for
the faith of the gospel...*

Friends, our fellowship as a diocese is grounded in the gospel. For the gospel is at the *heart* of those who come to serve; it's the *motivation* for financial and prayer support; and it's the *hope* people long for, and find proclaimed clearly, in our churches. That's why we are so thankful to God for all who stand firm with us, striving side by side, for a gospel shaped ministry across the North West.

Please continue to pray that we will remain steadfastly committed to the gospel, for it is *'the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes'* [Romans 1.16].

Bishop Gary Nelson

100 not out

By Rev Bill Ross

More than 100 residents, former church members and descendants of pioneers filled St Andrew's Church in Mullewa to celebrate its Centenary.

The service was conducted by Rev Don Miller and Bishop Gary Nelson preached on Jesus Christ's parable of the sower and the seed. The challenge for us is 'What sort of listener are we? for it is only those who hear and understand the good news who'll share in the fullness and glory of the Kingdom of God.

Bishop Gary drew attention to the new commemorative mural on the exterior wall of the church hall which reflects the parable using images of local wildflowers. The beautiful painting by renowned artist and church member Helen Ansell has been designed to be a lasting gift to the community and reminder of the gospel.



The celebration event was the brainchild and superb effort of former resident and church member Judy Critch, with a committee of local and past members, along with some Diocesan representatives. The church Service in the church was followed by lunch at the Recreation Centre.

Former St Andrew's Minister, Ted Doncaster, presented a pictorial and written history of the church's 100 years to Don Miller for display and a copy to Jocelyn Ross, diocesan archivist.

The event capped off a wonderful festive weekend for the Midwest town of Mullewa.

Stepping out in faith



Karratha Minister Frank Nicol (R) and Tim had some good chats with people as they tried some walk-up evangelism on Friday evenings.

Karratha Anglican Church used lockdown to kick off a program to evangelise their city.

Minister Frank Nicol said the congregation spent 12 months in preparation, trying simple things with the aim of leading up to an outreach event and a course for enquirers.

“When lockdown first hit in 2020 I thought, ‘Wait a minute, let’s make the most of this time and start planning church life,’ said Minister Frank Nicol.

A small team began by reading the book *The Vine Project* and putting together a simple plan which they shared with the church.

“This helped get everyone on the same page – united around the desire to share their faith in Jesus with non-believing friends and family.

“We started by encouraging people to focus on being Christian in their daily life, at work and in the community. So, we did simple things like invite friends to join us on a church day out at Python Pool.”

People committed to praying regularly for each other to have opportunities to personally share the gospel with specific named friends.

“Separate to this, we have a young guy who is a natural evangelist and so a couple of us decided to try some walk-up evangelism.

People were much keener to chat than you might think.

“Follow up conversations naturally occur because Karratha is not big and so we keep seeing people around town

“Our big activity was a Q and A event in a local bar which focussed on the topic of Christianity and suffering, and how Jesus is our hope in the pain.”

Eight non-believers came and there was a very positive response with genuine interest in the topic from guests. Frank said it was also an opportunity to show the local community that it was possible to have respectful conversations about controversial views – or even about taboo issues – and not damage friendships.

Finally, the church held Christianity Explored with six non-believers. Wonderfully, one person who had been investigating the claims of Christ for about a year, decided after the course that she was ready to commit to follow Jesus. We praise God that the church family will soon celebrate her baptism!

“We thank God for the way He used our simple steps to strengthen our little church and to encourage each of us to overcome our fears and share the words of eternal life with people who are without hope,” Frank said.

Women’s conferences



Women loved the Bible talks at Geraldton Cathedral.

To help strengthen and encourage North West women in their faith, the diocese recently held two day-long Bible teaching conferences.

About 130 women from a range of churches joined our Women’s Conferences in Geraldton and Karratha to dig into God’s word and spur one another on.

Ninety women from different denominations came to hear Clare Deeves, an Assistant Minister (women) in Perth speak on Philippians at the Geraldton Cathedral.

St George’s Bluff Point ministry wife, Melinda Spackman, said: “The North West Diocese is blessed with churches founded on solid Biblical teaching and it’s been a joy to share such faithful teaching more widely by featuring speakers who have been equipped at theological college.”

For most women the highlight was the talks and we enjoyed fellowship, singing and hearing from two local women about standing firm in Christ”.

At Karratha Anglican Church, Jo Nicol invited Eryn-May Wicks – Women’s Minister at St Matthew’s Shenton Park – to speak about the letter to Titus.

“I think the conference was important in the Pilbara because it was helpful in discipling women,” said Jo.

“Women have few opportunities to attend a conference in person because the Pilbara is so isolated and because there is a lack of locals who are trained speakers.

Outdoor Outreach



A group of Aboriginal Christians in Broome is meeting for Bible study on the main oval so that they can be a visible Christian presence in the centre of town.

Assistant Minister Chris Webb – supported by CMS – helps pastor the People’s Church congregation of Broome Anglican Church. He said the men’s Bible study group had been meeting at the church. But one morning, after discussing the story of the rich man and Lazarus in the gospel of Luke, one of the members challenged the group to meet in a more public location.

Just like the rich man in the gospel, the men meeting at the church had all the riches of God’s grace and salvation while in the centre of town there were many other men who were missing out on the blessing of knowing Jesus.

The group decided they should meet under the big tree on the oval at the centre of town – a common meeting place for many Aboriginal people. So now on Monday mornings, a core group gathers with guitars, a thermos and a Bible to spend time over a cuppa, singing, discussing the gospel and praying.

And every week a handful of extra men (and sometimes women) who are on the oval join them.

Chris said: “We now have an extra point of contact with these men, many of whom are struggling with alcoholism, and they have another opportunity to hear the gospel.

“It’s been great for the boldness of the Christian men too as they publicly identify themselves as followers of Jesus.

“It also helps the group think and pray in a more outward focussed way because we can see people moving around the town and the oval.”



Ask God to help the members of Broome People’s Church to find more ways to reach others with the gospel.

Women’s conferences

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Pilbara women enjoyed exploring the Bible together.

“We are especially praying that the conference helped to consolidate and encourage our church members, many of whom are new to the church in the last 12 months.

Jo thanked Mother’s Union for a generous grant which helped make this precious event possible.

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