



Welcome to our Multicultural Church

February Newsletter

February Council Report

Council met for the first time in 2023 on the 17th January. We had a full agenda, finalising business from 2022 and discussing the good things to come in 2023.

Of particular note:

The next congregational meeting is set for Sunday 5th March. The main items on the agenda will be the budget and a plan of action for 2023. So come with your questions and bright ideas for action.

Thanks to the generous support of the Coffee Chat and Craft group who have agreed to sponsor the garden we will be employing Craig for a couple of hours a month to keep it in order. We have also agreed to install a strategically placed garden tap so that hose can be laid and automatic timer can be utilised to water the garden

Council agreed to supporting The Tongan Girls' scholarships up to \$1500. A fundraising night will be held thanks to Kelly and Hayeon.

Any concerns? Talk to one of us.

Lesley Warner, Chair of Council

Do Young's New Year's Message

I've never been on a Pilgrimage. There were several chances to study the Holy Land and early church history, but I didn't get to travel there. There are few things that will develop my understanding of the Bible more than traveling through the Holy Land and visiting the places where many of those narratives played out. Especially, walking and staying in the footsteps of Jesus in Bethlehem, Galilee, and Jerusalem is not only exciting but very enlightening. We can hear someone say, after visiting Israel, they will never read their Bible in the same way again. Seeing and touching the actual places and meeting and speaking with local people, brings the Bible alive in a very dynamic and dramatic way.

The reason why I am talking about this is, a couple of weeks ago, we shared the story about the Baptism of the Lord. If we all had been on a pilgrimage, it would be nice to understand. Yet we have imagined the Jordan River and the Voice coming down from the Heaven-like dove. Unfortunately, we weren't

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there, and we just imagined the scene in our heads. Let me talk more about what I reflected on this. If we've seen pictures and movies or you've not been over to the Holy Land, the Jordan River is some mighty river in our imagination. But the Jordan River has always been oversized and exaggerated when we look at the picture of the river. But in generational condition, it's a dirty little river, it's filled with mud and dirt. It is impressed that Jesus comes, and he enters that river. Not because he needs forgiveness, not because he is a sinner but because he is on the human level. I would say that he stands and lives with us in all things but sin. It is absolutely the beauty of being a Christian and a privilege to understand the way Christ is with us. Many times, we sing Christmas carols and hymns "Emmanuel." There is no doubt that our Lord is never far away from us. Also, What I want to share with you regarding his baptism in Jordan River is that we also acknowledge that we are living in muck and dirt in our daily lives. As we look back at past years, it is quite right. But our past experiences teach us to remind that even if there is a lot of mud and dirt in our lives, we discover that Jesus is with us and beside us as our companion. We don't need to worry.

Every Sunday afternoon, when I get home, I normally think about the service, message, news, songs, and fellowships with members of PRUC that day. Sometimes I have great joy, sometimes I have more things to think about, and sometimes I need to pray. But no matter what happened that day, I have a hunch that there is a message for me in every single moment saying the mud and dirt are challenges for us, but it is a sign of we are on a Journey with Christ who also enters the mud and dirt river with us. And now we have

begun the season of the new year. Everything seems to be exciting so we can carry all mud and something similar into our new steps. In 2023, I pray that our little participation will be one of the most humbling and inspiring experiences in our life at the church in PRUC.

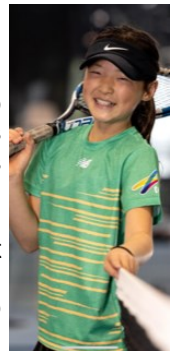
Blessings, Do Young

Hannah's Tennis Journey

We feel privileged to share Hannah's tennis journey with PRUC family.

Baby Hannah used to climb balustrades and crawl on the alter during church service. She was non-stop mover, hiding under the pew, checking every corner of the chapel. Hannah definitely needed to play some sports to burn her energy so that she could sleep at night. She started to play soccer at 3, and gymnastics, swimming, dancing thereafter. At 5, she started tennis because the activities back then could not make Hannah tired enough to sleep at night. She loved tennis from the first day of the lesson and still going strong.

Hannah just loves playing tennis and friends who she plays and competes with, but the outcome has turned out to be beyond belief. Hannah is currently No.1 in SA at 12/U girls and No.4 in Australia in her age group (Born 2011). She started travelling since 2022 to Queensland, Victoria, and ACT to represent SA in Teams Championship and play individually at Nationals (Hardcourt, Grass, Clay)



- Jan. 2023 12/U Grasscourt Nationals at Wodonga, Vic. 11th place (12/U), 3rd place (Year 2011 born)
- Oct. 2022 12/U School sports Nationals at Canberra, ACT. Represented SA as a No. 1 player
- Sept. 2022 12/U Hardcourt Nationals at West lakes, SA. 18th place (12/U), 2nd place (Year 2011 born)
- Jun. 2022 11/U Teams Championship at KDV sports Gold Coast. Represented SA as a No.1 player
- Participated in the best 8 players' camp in Melbourne, Vic.
- Apr. 2022 12/U Clay court Nationals at Canberra, ACT. 28th place (12/U), 2nd place (Year 2011 born)
- Jun. 2021 11/U Teams Championship at KDV s ports Gold Coast. Represented SA as a No.3 player

She is also due to in participate best 8 players' camp again soon 24th to 28th of January 2023 in Melbourne.

We are grateful for the support from private coach, Tennis SA and Tennis Australia. I wish I know the best words to express how grateful we are as I know it takes a great deal of PATIENCE, PATIENCE and PATIENCE to help young brain (Hannah) to be the best player she can be. More importantly, through tennis, she learns resilience, perseverance, respect, fair play, responsibility that every parent asks for to instill their children to become a better citizen.

The support from family friends, church family is amazing. They babysit and offer sleepover for Michelle when Hannah plays away from home. They check on with us as to how Hannah is doing, and even how mum is coping

busy schedule, all of which is the energy for us to keep going.

John and I sometimes are amazed by Hannah's determination, passion, concentration when it comes to tennis. As parents, we are lucky to discover those qualities in her so that we can support from early on. Having said that, Hannah is still young, susceptible to meltdown under pressure, gets angry when the play doesn't go the way she wants, gets distracted for no reason. Interestingly, this is all the more reason that we are happy with Hannah as she still grows with rooms to learn and improve and we have strong belief that she will grow up to be the best person she can be throughout the journey with Tennis.

Hannah will start High school at Marryatville. She was accepted to the school as a tennis player. This year, it is expected that busier schedules are lined up. She will get knocked down surely but we pray that she gets the habit of mustering up the courage to get back up just one more time than she gets knocked down.

Thank you.



New Year's Greeting from Liberated Church of Christ



(Amir in the middle of the group)

We wish you all a marvellous New Year that is full of blessing and peace.

Makram

Welcome

Our new organ scholar Casey MacEwan has begun his year with us by using our organ for his practise and lesson times. He will be playing for the first time at our service on Sunday 12th February, supported by Peter.

Please give him a warm welcome and get to know him.



Photography Competition

A big thank-you to everyone who sent through their amazing photos.

All entries will be featured on our web page and all entries will receive a prize. The winner will be announced on Sunday.

February Birthdays

9th Lorin

16th Norma S

17th Steven Z

18th Sarah K & Rachel M

26th Soonhwa Y

27th Mac M



Please send any photos or stories/events that you would like to share with the congregation. Looking forward to hearing from many of you!