# a Message from the Pastor

Australian officials would like us to rebrand shark attacks as "negative encounters". Any swimmer who was ever bitten by a shark might not agree.

It is human nature to downplay threats we cannot control. For example, we say of those who die that they "departed" or "passed on". But euphemisms cannot change the reality they describe.

As of this morning, 188 people have died in massive flooding in Europe. The death toll in the Surfside, Florida, condominium collapse stands at ninety-seven. And the global death toll from the coronavirus pandemic stands at some 4,089,175 at the time of writing. Martin Luther said, "Every man must do two things alone: he must do his own believing and his own dying". Death, of course, is the greatest unknown. However, our post-Christian society has devised a solution.

Postmodernism has taught us that our reality is the reality. Truth is "our truth". The man who declares "I don't believe in hell" may be convinced that his opinion settles the matter. This is illogical in the extreme, of course. Denying that cancer exists doesn't keep me from getting cancer.

We are unlikely to repent of our sins and seek forgiveness if we don't think we need to repent of our sins or seek forgiveness. We would not turn to Christ as our Lord and Saviour, thinking we do not need a Lord or a Saviour. But we need Him now more than ever, day by day and hour by hour.

# announcements

## **Prayer Ministry**

- Church prayer meeting Sabbath morning 8:45am 9:15am in the Teen SS room & Zoom
- Everyday: 7:00 7:30pm & Saturday 2:30 -3:00pm Evangelistic supplications until 18 September (Zoom) (Zoom - https://adventistchurch.zoom.us/j/635245706?pwd=OG9vbnFzdXZ0ZDBpUldUelBZUVZVZz09- Meeting ID: 635 245 706 Password: 2300C)
- Youth Intercessory Prayer: Mondays 6:00pm 7:00pm (Messenger) We value and appreciate all your prayer requests. Please send to: prayer.ministry@waitarachurch.org.au

## **Prayer Ministry Invitation**

The prayer ministry team invites the church family to special prayers everyday to uplift our evangelistic meetings in seeking God's blessings for a fruitful harvest. We need your prayers especially on Wednesdays 7:00pm to 7:30pm and Saturdays 2:30pm to 3:00pm [before each session] and other days same time as Wednesday until 18 September. Please join us on Zoom.

Our weekly Wednesday prayer meetings will restart on September 22. ALL ARE WELCOME.

### ADRA Blacktown & ADRA Macquarie Fields Food Pantry

Thank you for your continuing support in donating to ADRA.

## Lesson Study Classes (Zoom Breakout Rooms):

- **David Pennington**
- Rebecca Fletcher
- **David Fong**
- Peter Zuze
- John Chau/Tim Carson
- Youth

With tougher lockdown restrictions and infectious cases on the rise, to minimise Carol's risk exposure and potentially getting fine for travelling more than 11km, an alternative is to donate money to ADRA via Waitara e-giving. The accountant of both ADRA Blacktown and Macquarie Fields centres will treat your donation for replenishing their food pantries. And the donation is tax deductible. Thank you for your continuing generosity and support. From the ADRA team.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

### **Exercise Class On Zoom**

Free sessions - strength and toning exercises, and no obligations. Available this week for family and friends - men too. To register email Jeanette: <a href="mailto:lasek@hotmail.com"><u>lasek@hotmail.com</u></a>

Times - Mornings: 7.30-8.30 / 10.30-11.30. Afternoons and Evenings 12.30-1.30 / 2.00-3.00 / 3.30-4.30 / 4.30-5.30 / 5.45-

Level of classes - For Absolute beginners to experienced exercisers!

#### **Outreach**

Please remember to register for the Outreach program. Your participation will be a blessing. Register at https://fact-orfaith.web.app

## Sabbath School Offering Schedule:

3 Jul - Mission 5 Jun - Mission

10 Jul – Mission & Asian Aid 12 Jun - Mission & Asian Aid

17 Jul – Mission 19 Jun - Mission 24 Jul - Mission 26 Jun - Mission

31 Jul - Mission **Next Week's Offering:** Local Church Budget

**Sunset Times:** Tonight at 5:09pm Next Week at 5:13pm (times are approximate)

Thurch Director

MINISTRY TEAM

Senior Pastor

Bible Worker Head Elder Audio Visual Leaders Bulletin & Runsheet Editor Email (please send Bulletin Items here) Pr Barend Nieuwstraten

Gayl Fong Peter Zuze Marilene & Eldon Stevenson Andre Roux

Bulletin Cut-off Time - Wednesday 7:00pm SHARP

0414 431 677

barendnieuwstraten@adventist.org.au 0414 505 146 02 9651 5173 0413 154 734 02 8003 4499

waitarasdachurch@gmail.com