

## A. Prayer Points

- i. Give thanks for this nation's satisfactory COVID-19 status, a prospective vaccine, and the current mantle of protection over our district and its vulnerable;
- ii. Australia's current COVID status stands in stark contrast to that of other nations like the UK, USA and Brazil. Pray for their leaders and exhausted health care workers;
- iii. Pray for outgoing US president Donald Trump and president elect Joe Biden;
- iv. Our own national, state and local leaders. They have had a demanding 2020 and will face more difficult decisions in 2021;
- v. Our missionaries: the Harden's, Anderson's, Tanya Johnson (see her news below). As Tanya's update suggests, pray for them and their families at a time where travel is restricted;
- vi. Give thanks for the rain which has fallen over Queensland these last few weeks;
- vii. Pray for Ian and his knee rehabilitation. The Machin family have lost Esme, the Christian family have lost Lil, and the Bos family have lost Robert. Please pray God's peace upon them all;
- viii. Outreach for the church in 2021 (see below);
- ix. Give thanks for the generosity of members of the church this year, especially in the face of COVID-19. Pray for a wise use of all our resources in 2021; and
- x. Pray for those considering work in other places.

## B. A Table of Some Coming Events

Date	Activity	Leader	Venue	Sermon Text	Notes
Fri 8 Jan	Prayer meeting, 11.30 am		Church hall		COVID-19 face to face activity
Sun 10 Jan	Public worship, 10.00 am	Jim	Church	Mark 1:4-11	COVID-19 face to face activity
Fri 15 Jan	Prayer meeting, 11.30 am		Church hall		COVID-19 face to face activity
Sun 17 Jan	Public worship and communion, 10.00 am	Jim	Church	John 1:43-51	COVID-19 face to face activity
Tue 19 Jan	W & PC meeting, 7.15 for 7.30 pm		Office under manse		COVID-19 face to face activity
Thu 21 Jan	Worship, 2.00 pm		Avalon		COVID-19 aged care facility restrictions
Fri 22 Jan	Prayer meeting, 11.30 am		Church hall		COVID-19 face to face activity
Sun 24 Jan	Public worship, 10.00 am	Iola & Jim	Church	Possibly Australia Day theme	COVID-19 face to face activity

## C. Livestreaming Link

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January: [https://youtu.be/yX6mEf\\_xZtA](https://youtu.be/yX6mEf_xZtA)

## D. Resumption of Normal Offertory Collection

Church council has decided we can resume collection of the offertory during public worship in a COVID-19 safe fashion. Stewards will bring the offering bowls around to avoid them being touched by multiple hands, then count the collection and sanitise after church as they've done in the past.

## E. Tanya Johnson Update (from email received 3 Jan 21)

"Thanks for your prayers! Yay!

"The only flight mum could get on was one this afternoon and she has now safely arrived in Queensland and is on her way home to Townsville. There she will test and isolate until a negative

result but this is totally fine. The last couple of days was a nervous wait to see if Queensland would reinstate a hard border with Victoria, which hasn't happened yet.

“What a sigh of relief!”



F. Kyrgyzstan News (courtesy Kabar News

Agency)

**i. Bishkek, Jan. 6, 2021 / Kabar /.** Members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union State of Belarus and Russia will monitor, as part of the CIS observation mission, the preparation and conduct of the early presidential election in Kyrgyzstan, the Belarus Telegraph Agency reported, referring the press service of the Parliamentary Assembly.

The early presidential election in Kyrgyzstan is scheduled for 10 January. A referendum to choose governance system in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan will be held on the same day. Citizens will be choosing between the parliamentary and presidential forms of governance. As of 28 December 2020, the CEC accredited 311 international observers from 43 countries representing 31 international organizations.

**ii. Bishkek, Jan. 6, 2021 / Kabar /.** Kyrgyzstan added 144 new COVID-19 cases over the past 24 hours, taking the nationwide tally to 81,656, the Republican Headquarters for Combating COVID-19 said on Wednesday. Out of the total cases 4,128 are medical workers, 3,966 of them recovered.

According to data, the death toll mounted to 1,361 as one more COVID-19 patient died in Bishkek over the past day.

There are 912 patients in hospitals throughout the country and 1,288 patients receiving treatment at home.

The country has conducted 3,562 coronavirus tests over the past day.

## G. Outreach in 2021

A recent combined meeting of W&PC and church council elders brainstormed a number of thoughts for outreach and growth in 2021. The elders submit these to the congregation and invite feedback on them. They realise there will varying degrees of challenge with implementation, and that various stakeholders will need to be drawn into conversation about them. Please review the list, pray and talk to Jim or an elder if you wish to comment or commit to any of them.

- The number of viewers online for a Sunday service, on and after the day itself, was ascertained. Can this outreach be extended?

- The lack of numbers at bible studies and prayer group was noted. How can this be improved? Can we have more bible studies?
- Can we set up web page interviews with church members, as they have done at Northside Mackay?
- Can we establish a praise and singing time before worship?
- Do we need a suggestion box to encourage ideas from the congregation?
- Could we have more bible study groups?
- The voluntary and unsolicited expansion of food items available at morning teas was noted with approval and thanks.
- The way we welcome and follow up new arrivals in town and visitors at church was discussed. How do we best welcome them in worship? How can we capture their details for follow up? Do we use gift and information packs?
- How can we encourage and train more people to lead worship, or parts of the worship service?
- How can we reinforce the music and worship team ministry, especially with Josh and Jude leaving at the end of 2020?
- How can we best 'think outside the square,' especially in an environment dominated by COVID-19 restrictions?
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Additional note to hand regarding the cremation service of Esme Machin on Monday the 11th January, at 3pm at Buderim. The service will be on Youtube and further details can be had on Facebook. Please contact Pat re whose page the details will be on. Possibly, Jenny Bates? Many of our congregation will have fond memories of Esme who was a long time church member at Gindie and later in our churches here in Emerald.

## **Machin, Esme Joyce**

### **1926 - 2021**

**Mon 11 January 3:00 pm**

**Gregson and Weight, Buderim**

**159 Wisers Road, Buderim QLD 4556**