

From our Interim Senior Pastor Glenda Holbrook

Hello Everyone,

I've been reading about the Israelites in captivity in Babylon, and although they were far worse off than we are, their story has reminded me of where we're at with the Covid virus. While in Babylon they were cut off from their relatives and friends - sound familiar? They felt helpless and hopeless - sound familiar? They were asking, "Where is God? Why doesn't He do something?" Sound familiar? Ezekiel 37:11 sums it up like this, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.'



The only hope the prophet Ezekiel was told to give to the Israelites in exile was that they were to live in peace with themselves and with God during that difficult time. When the Israelites began to respond to what God was doing, rather than what they were feeling, they began to live by the Word of God, by faith rather than sight. They were praising God, studying Scripture, walking by faith, loving their neighbours.

There are great lessons for us in the story of the Israelites - let's not wait for the difficulties of Covid to be over before we're living by God's Word, praising Him, walking by faith and loving our neighbours. Verse 5 of Ezekiel 37 says 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life'. The words 'breath' and 'spirit' are the same in Hebrew. God breathes into us and we breathe in His life. We are still experiencing difficulty, pain and loss in this time, but we can continue to inhale the life-giving breath of God and exhale faith, hope and love to others.

With love & blessings, Glenda

ONLINE PRAYER MEETINGS

Zoom | Tuesdays 7:30pm

For the link, check your email (with this Navigate) or contact the church office:
office@newpeninsula.com.au



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FAMILY FUN!



Join us for some fun activities during the school holidays. Check socials or email chris@newpeninsula.com.au for details

Week 1

Family Games via zoom
4-5pm
Saturday Sept 26th

Week 2

Family Goose Chase
Scavenger Hunt



Service Sunday

9:30am

There are now two ways
to join our service:

- The link:
<https://newpeninsula.online.church>
(live and with chat function)
- The YouTube channel.
(media tab on website, or searching youtube)



The Marriage Course

7 WEEKLY ONLINE SESSIONS

REGISTER: office@newpeninsula.com.au

Starts Wednesday 14 October 7:30pm

- **FREE**
- **NO GROUP DISCUSSIONS**
- **FOR MORE INFO EMAIL CHURCH OFFICE**

Alpha



Let us praise God:

- ◆ For Alphas' great start.
- ◆ For the encouraging decrease in Covid numbers.
- ◆ For our Youth leaders.
- ◆ For the team involved in Real Food each week.
- ◆ For the hope that we have by knowing Him.
- ◆ For those involved in producing the online services each week.
- ◆ For the folk who are using creative ways to connect with others.
- ◆ For our Pastoral Care team.
- ◆ For friends.
- ◆ Rex and Suan Lee Campbell, from Power to Change, praise God that they have been able to continue their discipling of Phoebe and Dodo in China. Using the internet both in their Life Group and the Sunday online services. Pray for courage, wisdom and safety for Phoebe and Dodo as they live as Jesus followers in Guangzhou.

Let us continue to pray:

- ◆ For our pastors.
- ◆ For those who are grieving.
- ◆ For those facing and/or recovering from surgery.
- ◆ For those facing major changes in their lives.
- ◆ For those who are lonely.
- ◆ For our State and Federal leaders.
- ◆ For the Senior Pastor Search Committee.
- ◆ For those from NewPen who have had their employment terminated.
- ◆ For the Myanmar Partnership – Kerry Bolger (partnership chair) writes, "With the second wave of Covid-19 they are doing it incredibly hard. Up until now all the leaders' requests have been for others. I note this time there is a request for support for the ministers and their staff. Things must be getting quite difficult."

Alpha praise & prayer

Join us as we give praise for:

- ◆ The two Alpha groups (Monday & Thursday) enthusiastic start.
- ◆ The diversity of interests and beliefs of the participants.
- ◆ The tech requirements worked well, last week.

Continue to join us in prayer:

- ◆ For the technical side of the program to work seamlessly.
- ◆ That all conversations remain Jesus & Holy Spirit centered
- ◆ For protection against spiritual opposition.
- ◆ For the development of friendships.

Mission News:

If you would like to hear more news about our mission partnerships, and others we support. As well as using this opportunity to pray for the mission groups, why not use the mission prayer calendar?

To be added to the email list please email:

office@newpeninsula.com.au or if you would like a copy mailed to you please ring 5973 8888.

NEWSLETTER

Have you been talking to someone from church who does not have the internet?

Please let us know so that we can ensure they remain in contact with us. (Lesley@newpeninsula.com.au or 5973 8888).

UPDATE FROM NPBC LEADERSHIP, BOARD & ELDERS

Over the last few months, the NPBC Leadership, board & elders have been looking at where our focus needs to be as a church, especially with Covid 19 restraints. The New Peninsula Leadership have met to discuss this and, as there is no Events business due to Covid restrictions, we have agreed to close the Events for profit business (*this does not include church events, worship or leasing*)- effective 19th August 2020. We can assure you we have not come to this decision lightly, especially with the implications this has for our New Peninsula staff. With the closure of the Events Business, sadly, this means Freda Bowie, as Events Manager and Leanne Wells, as Administration Assistant for Events, will be finishing up their roles at New Peninsula. There are also implications for the many casual staff who have worked in the Events Business. We realise this will also have implications for our ongoing resourcing and finances of New Peninsula. The Church Board will create a Panel of Reference in 2021 to consider our finances and the overall scope of the activities at our MOUNT MARTHA property more broadly.

Another impact of Covid 19 is not being able to gather together and worship on a Sunday. This has also meant Michelle Cole, who had taken up an interim role to oversee our Welcoming and Integration ministries, will also finish up as this role is not required in this Covid situation. As a Leadership Team we are saddened when, due to the Covid restrictions, three of our New Peninsula Staff and casual staff have been impacted in this way.

With the closure of the Events Business, we want to express our thanks especially to Freda and Leanne as well the casual staff and any volunteers who have been involved with events. Your commitment to serving the New Peninsula family and wider community has been greatly valued. We also want to express our thanks to Michelle for her service to our New Peninsula family over many years. Michelle's care and faithfulness has been so appreciated by all of us.

Please join us in upholding Michelle, Freda and Leanne in your prayers.

As we continue to look to God and focus on Him, we know He is faithful and He will lead us. Moving forward we encourage all of us to look for what we can do for God in this season, rather than what we can't do. We believe our focus as a church needs to be on maintaining and growing connection and support within our church family and within our community. As it will be some time before we will be able to meet together in larger groups, we will focus on facilitating this connection, care and spiritual growth through small, relational groups, then expanding into larger groups as restrictions are lifted. Areas of focus and support will continue to be on our Life Groups, children, families, youth, men, women and our older folk. We will continue to improve and expand our online presence to connect with our church family and our community. Our CCI Team have continued their CCI ministries wherever possible and these will be expanded as restrictions allow. We thank you so much for your prayers and support.

Freda Bowie



Leanne Wells



Michelle Cole



MEET JOHN & KAYE WILLIAMSON

We are fairly recent retirees having moved to Rosebud in 2017. We both grew up in The Salvation Army and continued to worship there until we moved to Rosebud. We both sensed God's calling to serve overseas in an underdeveloped country. So from 2008 to 2011 we served in Jamaica working for the Salvation Army. Kaye was the resident nurse at The School for the Blind and I managed a residential drug and alcohol rehab and a feeding program for homeless people in downtown Kingston (500 meals a day). Our son Stephen joined us in 2009 as a project officer and spent most of his time in Haiti after the terrible earthquake, where he met his wife Kelly, an Australian girl from Brunswick.



Our daughter Kelly and her husband Steve bought a house in Mornington also in 2017. Yes that's right Kelly and Steve and Steve and Kelly! Our son Steve and Kelly live in Canberra. Daughter Kelly and Steve live next door to a couple

called Glenn and Glenda! Kelly and I (John) play golf together most weekends at Rosebud Country Club, where I'm known as "Kelly's Dad"! I (Kaye) enjoy cycling with the group on Mondays and am looking forward to the opening of the new aquatic centre.

When we moved to Rosebud we sensed it was time for us to find a new spiritual home. We made a list of what we would like in a church. These are the things we listed - good preaching and teaching, a Bible study group we could belong to, a focus on local and international mission and a warm and welcoming church. We found it at NewPen Rosebud!

I (John) have been Church Secretary for 18 months. It has been quite a challenging time with Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions, but we have enjoyed spending lots of time in Zoom meetings with new friends.

Bless you all. Thanks for making us feel so welcome.

John & Kaye

NOMINATION OF CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS

Our upcoming Church Planning meeting is a time when we look to appoint NPBC Board members. Geoff Ternes, our Treasurer, has advised that he won't be seeking re-election for another term and Mim Gaetano has also advised the Board he plans to step down from the Board at year end. Whilst we will appropriately acknowledge and thank both Geoff and Mim at the planning meeting, I just wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to both of them for their work on the Board these past years.

With these changes we have at least 2 vacancies on the NPBC Board that we are seeking expressions of interest from any church member who feels a call to join the NPBC Board. We have an updated position description called 'The Role of a Board member' which is available from Lesley at the office (lesley@newpeninsula.com.au) and this provides a good overview of what the position entails. If joining our Board is something that is of interest, we would encourage you to ask for a copy of the position description from Lesley, pray over it and then discuss your intentions with either Dave or Glenda, or any current Board member. Once this is done, there is a formal application that will need to be completed along with interviews with the Elders. To ensure this process is completed effectively and in a timely manner in time for voting to occur at the Church Planning meeting, we will need your completed application forms by no later than October 25.

John Williamson (Church Secretary)

Do you want to become a member?

In line with the constitution of New Peninsula Baptist Church, to vote at any church meeting you need to be an active member.

To become a member you need to have attended an information session and completed a formal application form.

Dave Underhill will be running an information session in October. If you are interested in joining this group. Please let Lesley in the church office know.

Lesley@newpeninsula.com.au or phone 5973 8888.

Church Anniversary

SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER

Online Church 9.30am

AND

Zoom Morning Tea 11am

Cake Cutting at 11.15 BYO Cake!



Start planning for Oct 4th – next week!

Don't forget to cook your cake (or buy one). What a great chance to have a chat!

The zoom links will be sent with the Navigate. If you did not receive them please email

Lesley@newpeninsula.com.au or phone the church office 5973 8888

In the family:

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

To Sandra Haw who will celebrate a special birthday on Monday 28 September.

May this day be very special for you. Happy Birthday!

BABY CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to grandparents Glenys & Byron Groves (and Auntie Claire) on the arrival of Dante Leon (to Daniel & Dora) on Monday 21 September.

What a special gift. May you all experience much joy as you see God's plans unfold for your little one.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS

To John & Glenice Lamb who will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday Oct 1.

What a wonderful excuse to relive precious memories, rejoice in God's blessings and also a time to experience his many provisions for today. Congratulations.

Communion:

As part of our Church Anniversary service we will celebrate Communion during our online Church service.

Please be prepared with some bread/crackers and juice.



18/9/20 Covid-19 Update - David Underhill

One of our Life Group leaders suggested setting up a roster of people who could meet at different times so everyone in the group could catch up face to face. The only restrictions are staying within your 5km limit. This technically means you can be just short of 10km from the person you are meeting with if you meet at the half way point. The other restriction is time, you can't meet for more than 2 hrs.

So lets see what we can do within this guidelines below.

You can only catch up with one person or your household members outdoors at a time. There isn't a limit on who you can catch up with outdoors. You should use common sense and limit seeing friends and family. There is a lower risk of spreading coronavirus (COVID-19) between people if you are outdoors which is why restrictions are changing to allow people to see a friend or family member outdoors.

There is a limit on the amount of time you can spend with people outdoors. You can only spend two hours, which can be broken up into a maximum of two sessions. You can only travel within 5km of your home to catch up with friends or family outdoors.

If you want to read up on all the details of this first stage roadmap you can find the information at here, <https://www.vic.gov.au/first-step-coronavirus-road-to-recovery>.



Shoe boxes due by November 8th

If you do not have a shoebox, still keep collecting, just use a bag, until we can advise where boxes can be collected from. Delivery points will be announced as restrictions allow. Watch this space! OR

Pack a Shoebox!
ONLINE

Follow this link and a shoebox will be packed for you. You can even include a letter.

<https://samaritanspurse.org.au/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/packonline/>

Simply choose a boy or girl, select an age and view a list of gift items that they will strive to fill the boxes with, based on availability. Then, make it your own by adding a personalised letter to your shoebox recipient. We will pack it for you and send it to a child in need.

MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE
RUBBISH DUMP TICKETS EXPIRY
DATE HAS BEEN EXT'D!!
SO SEPT TKTS NOW EXPIRE END
OF DEC.



**DONT LET
YOUR TIP
TICKETS GO
TO WASTE!**

IF YOU HAVE ANY SPARE??
PLEASE DONATE THEM TO THE
CCI OP SHOP via post
TO: Carolyn Taylor, NPCCI Op Shop
c/ 370 Craigie Rd, Mt Martha, VIC. 3934



Thought for the week:

“I keep my eyes always on the LORD.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.”

(Psalm 16:8)

E-giving - David Underhill

Thank you to everyone who supports New Peninsula with your tithes and offering. For online giving the details are listed below.

If you are unable to use this facility please contact the church office 5973 8888 for an alternative arrangement.

How to stay connected:

- ◆ 'Like' our Facebook page @newpeninsula
- ◆ Follow our Instagram account newpen_bc
- ◆ Subscribe to our YouTube channel New Peninsula Baptist Church
- ◆ Listen to Podcasts? You can subscribe to New Peninsula Baptist Church to listen to the sermons.

Pop onto our website - our 'church online' button on the home screen will take you straight to our YouTube account.

Alternatively, click on the 'media' tab on the website to access the podcasts, YouTube channel for sermons and our weekly Navigate.

For more information:

Our offices are currently closed, but we may still be contacted by:

Website: www.newpeninsula.com.au

Email: office@newpeninsula.com.au

Phone: Mount Martha 5973 8888

Phone: Rosebud 5982 0889 *(please leave a message)*

To contact a pastor urgently: 0407 311 185 (After Hours only)

PRAYER CHAIN email:

prayerchain@newpeninsula.com.au

DVD or CD's of the messages

can be ordered through the church offices.

GIVING TO NEW PENINSULA & BEYOND:

NPBC General offerings

(Please indicate whether it is for MM or RB)

BSB 063 539 Acc. # 1038 8044

NPBC Donation Fund

(Tax deductible, please include your name for an annual receipt)

BSB 063 539 Acc. # 1060 5168

NPBC School Building Fund

(Tax deductible, please include your name for an annual receipt)

BSB 063 539 Acc. # 1060 5272

NP Community Caring (NPCCI)

(Tax deductible, please include your name for an annual receipt)

BSB 063 539 Acc. # 1031 4088

These accounts can be used for internet banking or local branch deposits.