

## From our elder Allan McCasker



Over the past twelve months, we have all been confronted with significant changes that physical isolation has brought into our personal experience.

Do you remember: Online shopping? The 5km limit around your suburb for travelling or exercising? Limited visitors being allowed into your home? Zoom meetings?

As a result, almost overnight, I found myself with significant spare time.

But now that such restrictions are lifting, it is interesting to reflect on how I found myself using the extra time that I had at my disposal.

Having previously limited experience in the kitchen, I discovered that with extra time available, those recipes that I had previously placed in the 'too hard basket', I could now work my way through them and still have a meal at a reasonable time of day! - *Meeting my physical needs.*

Likewise, I discovered if I was going to further my culinary skills, I needed to compliment them by growing some herbs. So, the next item on the 'to do' list was to prepare a garden-bed. This has given me a great deal of satisfaction to see the herbs grow and then to use them as I needed - *This step has given me an insight into God's creative nature, seeing plants grow from what looks like a lifeless seed into a healthy growing plant.*

However, the most significant use of that extra time allowed me space for a daily meditation to *meet my spiritual needs.* A regular time to read scripture, a time to reflect on what God was and is saying in His word and what He is saying to me in 2021.

A time to pray

A time to listen, a time to be grateful for all of the blessings that God has given to me.

A time that I will need to closely guard, as life returns to normal once again.

Who would have ever thought, that a pandemic could have such positive outcomes?

Blessings Allan



### Sunday services at 9:30am

MOUNT MARTHA (MM)  
370 Craigie Rd Mount Martha

ROSEBUD (RB)  
Cnr Boneo Rd & The Drive Rosebud

### Youth/Family Service Sunday at 5:00pm

MOUNT MARTHA 370 Craigie Rd Mount Martha

Join our services in person

The 9:30am Mount Martha service is also streamed through the YouTube channel.

(Find this via the media tab on our website,  
or by searching for 'New Peninsula Baptist Church' in YouTube)



## Let us praise God:

- ◆ For His presence with us.
- ◆ For our Elders.
- ◆ The easing of Covid and travel restrictions.
- ◆ For our many volunteers.
- ◆ For our diverse congregations.
- ◆ For the many opportunities we have in Australia.
- ◆ For the ministry of Men's Shed.
- ◆ For our Pastors.



◆ For Andrew and Wendy McCulloch with Global Interaction Head Office. Andy joined with Geoff Maddock (State Director) and some prospective candidates on a trip to Central Australia to visit current workers, join in Easter celebrations and explore the heritage and continuing work amongst our Indigenous Australians.

## Let us continue to pray:

- ◆ For those who are grieving, loss of family, friends or lifestyle.
- ◆ For those who are facing or recovering from surgery.
- ◆ For our incoming Senior Pastor Paul Crothers and his wife Kate and children Maria, Tom & Bridget.
- ◆ For us to be prepared to expose our innermost being to Jesus.
- ◆ For those in countries where the Covid virus is still rampant.
- ◆ For our Church Board.
- ◆ For those who are struggling with mental health issues.
- ◆ For our country's leaders.
- ◆ For Paul and Anna White in the Arabian Peninsula. They ask for a blessing on Paul's new coach-training program with mission and church leaders. For wisdom, insight and protection for Anna as counselling cases seem to be getting trickier.



## Don't forget to pray for our regular groups:

SUNDAY 18 April

9am Prayer time for all in Mtg. Rm 4

Bookshop & Library (Mount Martha)

*Please note:* All kids programs recommence Sunday 25 April.

TUESDAYS

Men's Shed MM

9:00am - 1pm

**ALL WELCOME**



WEDNESDAYS

Playgroup MM



Rosebud Community Group  
RB 5pm

THURSDAYS

Men's Shed MM

9:00am - 1pm

Prime Time MM

2nd & 4th Thurs.

1:30 - 3pm

April 22 speaker:  
Glenda Holbrook

FRIDAYS

Youth MM will be returning on April 30 with an exciting event of 'Arcade'.



LIFE GROUPS

Meet most days of the week, at both campuses and at various times of the day and evening.

*Contact:* Dave Underhill for more information.



*The central theme is "Going to the ends of the Earth" and looking at how the church went out from Jerusalem. What drove ordinary men and women, to leave the comfort of the familiar and face danger and hardship to share the good news of Jesus? Come along and find out.*

The Series will start on April 25 at RB and May 2 at MM.

There will be a sermon each week that fits in with the bible studies and the Children's and Youth programs will also be using these themes.

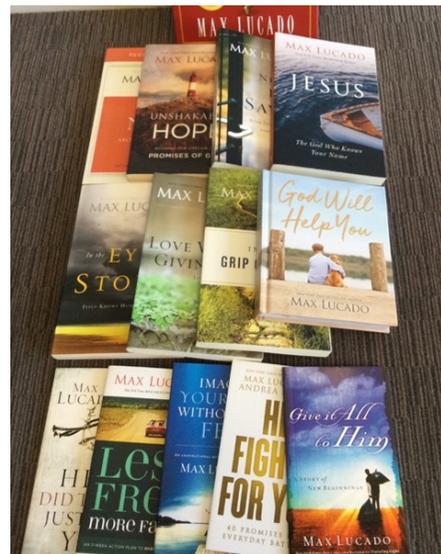
If you'd like to join a Life Group please see Wendy Cathie at MM and Judy Gaetano at the RB on Sundays after the service.

Life Group leaders can contact Sue Williams for the material or the bookshop at MM to order participant manuals.



Bookshop at Mount Martha after the AM service

*This week's focus is on Max Lucado*



When Paul, our new Senior Pastor, commences in May we will be encouraging everyone to where a name tag.

If you need a name tag please email [Lesley@newpeninsula.com.au](mailto:Lesley@newpeninsula.com.au) or phone 5973 8888



## For your diary



April 25 (RB) & May 2 (MM) Deeper series commences.

May 9 Mother's Day.

May 16 Annual Church Meeting 12noon at Mount Martha.

May 23 9:30am Mount Martha.

Senior Pastor Paul Crothers' induction (*Combined Service*).

## In the family

### ENGAGEMENT CONGRATULATIONS:



Kate Crowle is very excited to announce her engagement to John Richard Brew. Anyone wanting to contact Kate may obtain her details from the church office.

*Congratulations to you both, may this be a special time of growth together as you seek the Lord's guidance for your future.*

## COVIDSafe Guidelines 9 April

The BUV (Baptist Union of Victoria), in line with the Vic.Gov website, lists the following to take effect from Friday 9 April.

### Religious ceremonies and gatherings

- ◆ Density of 1 person per 2sqm applies.
- ◆ Venues must use electronic record keeping.
- ◆ Indoor & outdoor ceremonies can occur at the same time.
- ◆ All faith organisations must have a COVIDSafe plan.

### Food & Drinks

- ◆ Single use items are recommended.
- ◆ One person serves.
- ◆ There is to be no sharing of utensils or food.

### Masks

- ◆ Are highly recommended when singing indoors.
- ◆ Must be carried at all times.



## Thought for the week:

“Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed. Save me, and I will be saved, for you are my praise.”

*(Jeremiah 17:14)*

## 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 remain closed to the public, except by appointment, for the time being, however you can continue to contact us through the following means:

**Website:** [www.newpeninsula.com.au](http://www.newpeninsula.com.au)

**Email:** [office@newpeninsula.com.au](mailto:office@newpeninsula.com.au)

**Phone:** Mount Martha 5973 8888 (Mon-Thurs 9am - 4pm)

**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](mailto:prayerchain@newpeninsula.com.au)

**DVD or CD's of the messages**

can be ordered through the church offices.

## Regular tithes & offerings:

Thank you to everyone who supports New Peninsula with your tithes and offering.

For online giving the details are listed below.

For those who prefer to bring their offerings there will be a box available at Mount Martha at the back of the worship center, and a collection will be taken at Rosebud.

## GIVING TO NEW PENINSULA & BEYOND:

### NPBC General offerings

*(Please indicate whether it is for Mt Martha (MM) or Rosebud (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.***