

From our General Manager of NPCCI - Andrew Taylor



I was reading and meditating on a few of Jesus's parables when I encountered the parable of final judgement (The Sheep and the Goats). Matthew 25:31-46

Whilst the parable is about God's judgment of non Jews who receive or reject followers of Jesus, it did get me thinking. How do we as Christians respond to the teachings of scripture on how to care for the needs of people experiencing hardship in a modern and complex world?

A couple scriptures that come to mind are:

'Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter – when you see the naked, to clothe them.' – Isaiah 58:7

'If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?' – 1 John 3:17

So as Christians, are we to bring homeless people into our homes for shelter, feed and clothe them? I would imagine most of us have the physical resources to do so, but does it mean we should provide financial or material resources when someone in need asks? I say, "definitely not!"

Please do not misunderstand, I am not saying to do so is wrong, just that although most of us may have the material wealth to do so, very few of us have the expertise to do so in a safe, empowering, and healthy way, considering and planning for all potential risks.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

June 20 2021

navigate



Join us for our **ONLINE** service this weekend, 9.30am Sunday

Go to www.newpeninsula.com.au and select

'Church Online'

Or search 'New Peninsula Baptist Church' on YouTube

(See page 3 for more details of face to face services)

Current COVID Restrictions from Friday 18 June.

By now you will be aware of the latest changes to the Covid restrictions. Here are the relevant details for our services and ministries.

- Movement between Melbourne and regional Victoria unrestricted
- Face coverings must be worn indoors and outdoors (where physical distancing cannot be maintained) and must be carried at all times.
- Private gatherings limited to two adults + dependents per day
- Outdoor public gatherings permitted for up to 20 people
(Life groups are therefore able to meet outdoors providing you adhere to social distancing requirements, or you may contact the church office to book a room on site).
- Religious gatherings and ceremonies are permitted for up to 150 people per venue (75 people indoors, 75 people outdoors);

HOWEVER density quotient of 1 person per 4 sqm applies (so there is a 50 person cap for Rosebud worship centre, and a 69 person cap for Aud 2).

- QR Code Check in compulsory.



SERVICES THIS SUNDAY:

Mount Martha am: On-line service through YouTube.



Rosebud: Live service for Rosebud regulars – 50 person limit in Worship Centre. Masks required. *Overflow in activity centre playing the online service only, if required.*

Real Food: Live service for Real Food regulars – 69 person limit in Aud 2. Masks required.



Wanting some ideas for some God-moments with your kids or Grandkids this week? Head to our webpage for resources and ideas to use as a family this weekend and through the week:

www.newpeninsula.com.au/familiesathome

Contact joss@newpeninsula.com.au or chris@newpeninsula.com.au for more info or support.



5976 4873

Op Shop
newpeninsula
community caring inc.

Now Open
Tuesday - Saturday
9am - 5pm

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)1

It is important when reading scripture to consider the historical and cultural context. To read and act as scripture is literally written most often results in disempowerment of the person in need, puts you and your family at risk, and often results in the person having a bad view of Christianity and God.

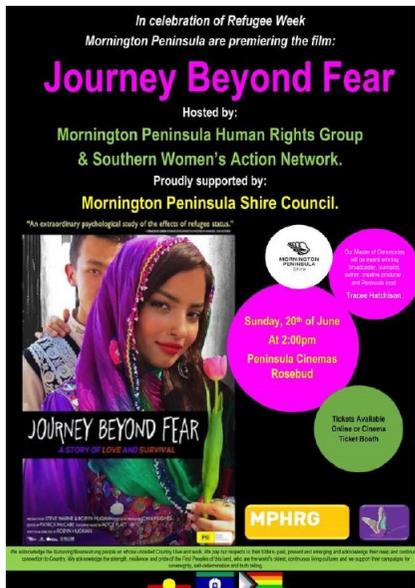
We all agree the scriptures are God breathed and possess eternal wisdom from the very mouth of God. However, at the time they were scribed there was a very limited welfare structure and clear cultural expectations as to who should provide for the poor and how it should be done.

Today we have an abundance of services and programs designed to support the needs of people experiencing hardship. Many seculars and some Christian welfare services are well equipped to respond to any situation. Does this mean there is no need for Christians to respond? No!

There are many ways we can and should respond to the call on Christians to care for all people in our community. There are numerous volunteering opportunities under the supervision and guidance of trained professionals, there are financial contributions required to provide support and services, and prayer underpins everything we do.

So please, if you feel compelled to help someone in need, first consider if you have the knowledge and expertise to do so, and if you have any uncertainty, please call an Elder, Pastor or Church Leader who I am confident will give you sound advice.

In Christ together, we bless God – Andrew Taylor



Postponed

This fundraiser for refugees has been postponed until October 10 at 2pm due to the current restrictions.

Have you checked out our '90 Second Reflections for Lockdown'

Available on the NewPeninsula YouTube channel, Facebook or Instagram.



Let us praise God:

- ◆ For all of those who have continued to encourage others.
- ◆ For our friends and family.
- ◆ For the small, daily reminders, we have each day of God's blessings to each of us.
- ◆ For our pastors.
- ◆ For the lessening of Covid restrictions in Greater Melbourne.
- ◆ For all of those who have provided assistance in recent times of need.
- ◆ For the tech team and those others who are working to bring us quality online services each week.
- ◆ For the NPCCI Op Shop, for both the income it provides for other ministries and also the community of friends that has developed there.
- ◆ For Michael and Karen Penn working with MAF Mareeba, Qld: They praise God that the whole Penn family was able to be together in Geelong to share in the marriage of their son Nathan to Mel, and that they only had to go into quarantine for a few days upon their return to Queensland.

Let us continue to pray:

- ◆ For those who are struggling with the current restrictions.
- ◆ For those who are feeling alone or isolated.
- ◆ For those who are in pain, awaiting delayed surgery.
- ◆ For those who are grieving.
- ◆ For our kids and families teams.
- ◆ For our family and friends in countries where Covid is still rampant.
- ◆ For those who have found themselves in very unexpected and different circumstances.
- ◆ For those who are still without basic needs following the recent storms.
- ◆ For those who work behind the scenes to bring us our services.
- ◆ For our partners in Myanmar who fear for their lives every time they leave their houses distributing emergency food packages. And also as they now have to contend with floods in the midst of Covid and political persecution.



[Do you want to know more about our Missions?](#)

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.

[Please continue to pray for our groups during lockdown.](#)

Our groups are adapting:

- ◆ Life Groups are meeting via Zoom.
- ◆ Back on Track have an appointment only 'drive-by' service.
- ◆ Kids & families have special activities.
- ◆ Our Youth are now able to meet in person, but of course with restrictions.

For further information about your individual group please contact your leader, or check out the website.

Thought for the week:

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.”

(Romans 12:12)

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. However you can continue to contact us through the following means:

Website: www.newpeninsula.com.au

Email: 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

DVD or CD's of the messages

can be ordered through the book shop at Mount Martha.

Tithes, offerings & donation fund.

Thank you to everyone who supports New Peninsula with your tithes and offerings. And a big 'thank you' to all those who are continuing to support the church during the disruption caused by the Covid-19 restrictions. It is a great encouragement.

For those who would like to take advantage of our Tax Deductible funds you can make a donation to either the "NPBC Donation Fund" or the "NP Community Caring Account", *see details below.*

The Church donation fund helps the church to provide our ministries and NPCCI helps our ministry to the marginalized.

Please include your name in the "description area" for fund transfers so that we can issue a receipt for your tax return."

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.