

Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Ian's Update— 6 August 2021

Jesus changes everything series

This current teaching series touches on a number of key areas that we are able to change by co-operating with the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling within us.

KEY THOUGHT FOR THIS SERIES

Change is not fun!

Some people do not like change. But, being a Christ-follower requires change. These days, the idea of necessary change is not popular. There are many who want to claim Christianity without having to actually live a Christ-like life.

It's not enough to just claim to believe or say that you're a Christian. There has to be a change. There should be evidence in your life that you truly follow Jesus. You have to be transformed.

KEY VERSE

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away;

behold, the new has come. [2 Corinthians 5:17]

Be prepared to Change

This issue of the *Update* includes messages of significant changes in the life of our local church, in the lives of some of our church family, in our nation and in our world.

COVID changes can happen quickly.

Create and stay logged on to your account in the App or Website for the quickest notification of changes to our operations.

CHANGED INTO THE GLORY OF GOD

Over the last few weeks, we have been touched as some of our family and church family members have passed into the glory of God.

But we all, with uncovered face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image, from

- Jesus changes everything
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- Caring for each other in uncertain times

Love God Love People

Tuggeranong Baptist Church

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Elders/Corporation Committee

Ian Reid (President)
Rob James (Vice President)
Mike Ashford (Secretary)
Craig Leon
Paul Massen



glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. [2 Cor 15:52 KJ21].

In some of the cases, we have rejoiced that, for them there is no more physical struggle or pain. In others, we feel that their lives have been cut short in ways that we never imagined due to the impacts of the pandemic.

Through it all we are confident that in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord [Rom 8:37-39 NIVUK].

In particular, I mention Neil McKenzie and Jack Dharmaratnam.



Neil was a foundation member of Tuggeranong Baptist Church whose giftings were in practical helps and outgoing humour. He was, therefore, visible to us and well known by many.

Jack was a man of prayer and deep faith who delighted to be in the house of the Lord when he was able to attend. His disposition was quieter than Neil's but it was a blessing to be on the receiving end of his warm smile and nod of greeting. Jack was a regular attendee at our Seniors' Group that operated some years ago and included Elizabeth Chelliah.

Neil's service of Thanksgiving at the Garratt St Centre was attended by about 85 which is almost the capacity for the auditorium space, a number were included via Zoom and a recording of the service can be access via our app/website under the *Sermons* tab .A mass was at the Sacred Heart Church of the Sacred Heart, Mary Help of Christians

Parish honoured Neil as he was a regular attendee there with Jill.

Jack's service was in Sydney and, under COVID restrictions was attended by 10 close family members. He will be remembered by Canberra's Tamil Christian community when they next gather.

COVID caps on numbers for funerals and domestic and overseas travel restrictions increase the sense of loss in families. A number of us have had this experience. We need to pass this into the God's hands as well.

Others that are know individually to us, but not mentioned by name in the *Update*, are no less precious in God's sight or in our hearts.

May God continue to bless and strengthen all who are left behind as they learn to reshape their day-to-day lives.

NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE – JENKE CIRCUIT PROPERTY

The Association of Baptist Churches of the ACT Inc., is the legal entity that holds the lease on the property at Jenke Cct in trust for Tuggeranong Baptist Church. The lease is in the process of being transferred to *Tuggeranong Baptist Church Inc.*

The Association's secretary has been diligent in following this matter up with the solicitors handling the matter but the process is taking a long time. Once the transfer is complete we will be able to re-commence our efforts to dispose of the land. A lot of preliminary work on examining options has already occurred.



THE VOLUNTEERING PROJECT – A BIG CHANGE

On Sunday 1 August 2021 we launched the volunteer project. This is our next step in implementing our *Safe Church Policies and Procedures*. These comply with legal requirements driven by the *10 Child Safe standards* defined as a result of the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse*.

The requirement that all volunteers are screened, sign a code of conduct, hold a Working with Vulnerable Card (in the ACT) apply across all associations where people volunteer. This represents a huge administrative change as well as the changes for individuals.

All existing volunteers must go through the induction and other processes and re-apply for volunteer positions they may have held for many years.

THE VOLUNTEER PROCESS

A document outlining the process with links to Safe Church induction training modules etc was available at Garratt St on 1 August and can be found at <https://garrattstcentre.org.au/d/7cg01sy35tM7z7qw5iyGlxZCq> on in our App.

Forms required to apply for a position are on the same page in PDF format. To obtain the forms in Word format, send a message to events@tbcchurch.com.au.

NOT JUST WORKING WITH CHILDREN



Some things that previously applied only to those in designated children's groups now apply across the board. From the government's point of view, cleaning the building (or other similar functions) provides a service to children.

An example is the *Creating Safe Spaces on-line training and face-to-face workshop*. Many thanks to all who recently refreshed their training or attended for the first time to equip themselves for new or continuing service.

ALIGNING TO THE 10 CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

The *Association of Baptist Churches in NSW & ACT* provided us with a set of document templates that meet the requirements of the *10 Child Safe standards* developed by the Royal Commission in the context of the Church, and these templates have been adapted and endorsed by the Elders.

THE SAFE CHURCH HEALTH CHECK

The *Safe Church Health Check* is a comprehensive review tool which will assess your church's Safe Church Practices against identified minimum standards for compliance with these various legal duties. Our insurers accept the findings of this assessment as evidence that we are implementing our Safe Church policies.

We will be undertaking the Health Check process in due course. The Safe Church page on the Association's website currently advertises the names of 6 churches that have undergone the Health Check. Like many other processes in the last 18 months, the assessments are taking some time.

A big difference for us is that we will now be required to **keep a lot of records for a very long time** so that we are able to produce evidence that we have taken every reasonable step to ensure our church is a safe environment for all who serve or attend any of our ministries or events.



COVID CHANGES – DELTA STRAIN REVIEW

Things have changed from what they were.

Here are some of the changes:

- The Delta strain is much more dangerous and more infectious than earlier strains of the virus and the incidence of outbreaks much higher.
- The World Health Organisation published in April 2021, that the virus is air borne.
- The emphasis on wearing masks has increased and, in Australian states, is mandated as the risks increase.
- Lock downs and travel restrictions are now the usual response to locally transmitted outbreaks but may change when vaccinations rates are sufficient to establish *herd immunity*.
- Things change quickly as data becomes available and data modelling and risk analysis continues.

Here are some blessings that manage/minimise risk:

- Effective vaccines have now been developed and are being distributed as quickly as possible.
- The ACT Government has measures in place that build confidence that the risks associated with COVID are being well managed and minimised:
- ACT Health has a comprehensive *Be Prepared* strategy which you can view at <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/act-status-and-response/be-prepared>.



Get vaccinated
when eligible



Stay home if unwell
and get tested



Check In for
contact tracing

- The vaccination program is being rolled out. About 30% of the population estimate for June 2021 in the ACT has been vaccinated. While deliberations are still ongoing, are figure around 80-90% is required to achieve herd immunity. Visit <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/stay-safe-and-healthy/vaccine> to find out more or book for vaccination. Figures change daily.
- The measures to minimise risk that are currently in place at the Garratt St Centre are designed for a population that that is not vaccinated.
- Capabilities in the health sector, in tracing, in surveillance of compliance and constant data-based evaluations of solutions and risk analysis have increased and play their part in the minimisation of risks.

WHAT DOES A PERSON DURING THEIR COVID (DELTA STRAIN) LOOK LIKE?

A person can have COVID and infect others 1 to 3 days before symptom develop and can be infectious for a total of 8 to 10 days or longer.

Statistics from the current outbreaks show that much of the virus has been spread by people who know each other gathering together during their infectious period.

Therefore a infectious person can be:

- someone you know or do not know
- someone not exhibiting any COVID symptoms
- someone who has been vaccinated when they have COVID and before the immunity created takes effect
- Some exhibiting COVID symptoms

IT'S TIME FOR EACH OF US TO REVIEW OUR COVID SAFE BEHAVIOURS



COVID INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

ACT Health outlines our **PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITIES** to manage the risk for ourselves and for each other. We each need to:

- Use the Check In CBR app to check in.
- Take personal responsibility for our own safety, by practising COVID-safe behaviours:
- Keep 1.5 metres away from people or groups we don't know.
- Maintain good personal hygiene, including regular hand washing or sanitising.
- Stay home if they're unwell and get tested if they have any COVID-19 symptoms. Do not congregate in large groups and maintain physical distancing while queuing
- Where directed by the business or venue, limit their time spent there.

PHYSICAL (SOCIAL) DISTANCING

Physical distancing means separating yourself from other people as much as possible when you're in public places.

It can be very effective in slowing the spread of infectious diseases.

Physical distancing means you should:

- stay home whenever possible
- keep 1.5 metres between yourself and other people
- avoid shaking hands, hugging or kissing other people
- use 'tap and go' payments instead of cash
- limit visits to people at risk. Many facilities, including hospitals and aged care, have rules and restrictions about visitors. Please check before you visit
- follow the current restrictions on groups and gatherings

- Seek medical attention if you feel unwell and develop any symptoms of COVID-19 .

SINGING

Singing carries a high risk of transmission of COVID, due to increased droplet spread. While singing is currently permitted in the ACT, venues and event organisers should take steps to minimise the risks associated with this activity.

Choirs and performers should maintain a minimum of 1.5 metres from each other and two metres away from the audience/ congregation.

Congregational singing is discouraged. However, if congregations wish to allow singing they need to include this in their COVID Safety Plan and ensure that members maintain a minimum of 1.5 metres from each other whilst singing.

Additional cleaning should be undertaken of areas or equipment in range of singers/performers.

ADVICE ABOUT MASKS IN THE ACT

While there is currently no community transmission of COVID-19 in the ACT and the use of face masks is not generally required, people should be prepared for situations where a mask may be required.

In the ACT, masks are recommended where you are unable to maintain physical distancing.

Masks are just one line of defence against COVID-19 and are not a substitute for other precautions.

[Extracted from the [What you Can](#) section and [Protect Yourself](#) sections of the ACT Health COVID website.]

Visit the site for more details.



HOUSEKEEPING

The website and App



The website

The new website is much more interactive than previous website and we will introduce new functions to you as time goes by. When you create an account on the website, you also have the same logon details for the App.

So that we can contact you quickly :

- Create an account that provides us with your details
- If you are logged into your account, your details prefill into your RSVPs for Events..
- Sign up to be part of the prayer team or other groups
- Receive notifications
- Book for events
- Add a prayer request for yourself or for someone who has given you permission to do so
- Read About us and our Groups.
- Access Safe Church Induction training and forms for volunteering or preparing proposals to organise events

Teaching for August

The current series *Jesus Changes Everything* continues until 29 August.

15 August 2021—Guest—Alf Jonas



Read more about Alf on our Website <https://garrattstcentre.org.au/news/alf-jonas-guest-preacher-for-15-august-2021>

Alf's message will be recorded and available for viewing on via website, app and u-tube after the Sunday service.

22 August 2021—Guest—Mandy Gray



Mandy is Interim Youth Pastor at Mosaic Baptist Church and facilitated our recent *Creating Safe Spaces Workshop*.

Read more about Mandy on our website: <https://garrattstcentre.org.au/news/mandy-gray-interim-youth-pastor-at-mosaic-to-speak-at-tuggeranong-baptist-church>

Mandy's message will be recorded and available for viewing on via website, app and u-tube after the Sunday service.



HOUSEKEEPING

Teaching for September—October



Key Idea and Bible verses:

We're reminded in 2 Corinthians 5:7 that we "walk by faith and not by sight."

But what exactly does walking by faith look like?

The mere phrase denotes the activity of movement.

Walking by faith means that you are embarking upon a journey.

Along this walk, we will have to do more than just believe.

We will have to be mindful of our thoughts, our words,

and the actions we take – these are the fundamental steps to walk by faith in God.

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

"And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

The Series

Sunday September 5	Faith Is....	Hebrews 11:1-6
Sunday September 12	The Work of Faith	Hebrews 11:7
Sunday September 19	Faith That Saves works	James 2:14-26
Sunday September 26	The Perspective of Faith	Hebrews 11:23-28
Sunday October 3	The Adequacy of Faith	Hebrews 11:22
Sunday October 10	The Way of Faith	Hebrews 11: 17-19
Sunday October 17	Perfecting Your Faith	James 1:1-12
Sunday October 24	Faith Alone	Hebrews 11:1-6



HOUSEKEEPING

Finance

We thank God that He continues to provide for your needs and those of the church and for your faithfulness in giving directly through the banks. Offerings are received from those who attend at Garratt St and at home.

The Jobkeeper subsidy has now finished and we are meeting our salary expenses from your offerings.

The church treasurer has begun work on our 2021-2022 Budget.

Analysis of Income from 1 October 2020 to 30 July 2021							
Date	Total Direct Deposits only	BFS direct transfer	Westpac direct transfer	iGive	iGive Credit Card	Cash deposited at Bank	Govt Boosts/Jkpr
6/10/2020							\$5,000.00
9/10/2020							\$3,000.00
30/10/2020	\$18,319.00	\$11,009.00	\$2,540.00	\$3,640.00	\$1,130.00		
14/11/2020							\$2,400.00
30/11/2020	\$17,799.00	\$9,539.00	\$2,950.00	\$2,160.00	\$3,150.00		
10/12/2020							\$2,400.00
14/12/2021						\$400.00	
15/12/2021						\$900.00	
16/12/2021						\$450.00	
30/12/2020	\$17,605.00	\$9,125.00	\$1,540.00	\$3,770.00	\$3,170.00		
31/12/2021						\$450.00	
15/01/2021							\$3,600.00
31/01/2021	\$16,350.00	\$9,030.00	\$1,940.00	\$2,930.00	\$2,450.00		
11/02/2021							\$2,000.00
26/02/2021	\$14,859.00	\$7,469.00	\$1,140.00	\$2,790.00	\$3,460.00		
17/03/2021							\$2,000.00
26/03/2021						\$500.00	
31/03/2021	\$17,444.00	\$9,099.00	\$1,825.00	\$4,420.00	\$2,100.00		
13/04/2021							\$2,000.00
19/04/2021						\$1,300.00	
21/04/2021						\$50.00	
30/04/2021	\$25,606.00	\$20,546.00	\$1,340.00	\$1,740.00	\$1,980.00		
31/05/2021	\$16,413.00	\$11,113.00	\$1,950.00	\$2,210.00	\$1,140.00		
30/06/2021	\$16,326.00	\$10,756.00	\$1,740.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,240.00	\$90.00	
31/07/2021		\$9,860.00	\$1,340.00	\$4,760.60	\$1,180.00		
Total Offerings	\$181,911.60	\$107,546.00	\$18,305.00	\$30,920.60	\$21,000.00	\$4,140.00	\$16,400.00
Offerings + Subsidies	\$198,311.60						



HOUSEKEEPING

Building Improvements—Solar Panels

Installation of solar panels has been approved. This is an important way that we can we can serve the community and care for the environment. The project was triggered by an invitation from David Smith, Member for Bean, to submit an Expression to Interest for a grant. We are waiting to hear if we will be invited to apply for the grant. In the meanwhile, we have taken the decision to go ahead with the installation and, if we do not received, allocate funds previously as the work fits the purpose for which the funds were donated.

We have taken a futuristic approach and will fit more panels than are needed to meet our current energy needs. At a future date we may require the energy ourselves or be able to serve the community by feeding back to the grid. As most of the cost of the installation is in sections, drawing up plans and gaining permissions, it is cheaper to install more panels than we need now rather than to incur the same overhead costs when we want to instal additional panels in the future.

Dinner for Women



Join others at the Tuggeranong Vikings Club, Town Centre at 6:00 pm for a 6:30 pm start. Thursday 19th August 2021

An evening of friendship over a meal when you can catch up with old friends and make new ones.. Book by Tuesday 17 August using the app or on the website:

<https://garrattstcentre.org.au/events/womens-dinner-book-by-800-pm-on-tuesday-17-august-2021>.

Yours hosts: Correen Ardill and Marijke Tod.

Community of Givers

I continue to distribute vouchers to sole parent families in our community and am thankful for your individual direct contributions to our COG fund and the funds raised through the operation of the Op Shop.

Caring for each other in uncertain times

It's a blessing to hear of ways in which you connect with each other.

Do not hesitate to call me, one of the elders or a trusted friend if you need someone to talk to in these uncertain and changing times,

Blessings

Ian Reid, Lead Pastor for the Leadership Team
For the Leadership Team

