

Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship of Australia Inc.



AEF MAGAZINE Oct. 2022

WHAT'S INSIDE ?

Chaplains
Fundraiser

Convention Dates!!
NSW Family Camp
Phase II Ladies program
and more...

AEFFYS Ladies grief Loss program – There was a lot of excitement as many AEF ladies gathered for 2 day of impacting workshops. (firstly at Balga EAC below). **Our Story: Finding Hope Beyond Grief** - is a clinically informed workshop program supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women as they explore and process their experiences of loss, grief, and trauma. See more on page 9



Hebrews 6:19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast...

EDITORS NOTES

We are always on the lookout for good Artwork and AEF stories to share with our readers. If you or your Church has something that might be a blessing then please feel free to email it to aef@aef.org.au. We need high quality pics. Please make sure permissions are obtained first. NOTE: The AEF wants everyone to know that anyone attending the events we run might have photographs taken which may be used on the fb page or in the mag. etc. If you don't want us to use them please let us know. Tony Riches

Please be aware:

This magazine may contain images of Indigenous people who have gone to be with the Lord.



The new address for the head office is
**P.O. Box 123
Kelmscott WA 6111.**

A special thank you for our kind supporters and friends at the **Bible Society** who are our major sponsor for the AEF National Convention 2023. Also to the kind people at **Leading the Way** with **Dr. Michael Youssef** as they supported much needed technology upgrades for the AEF programs.



Congratulations to Lois May on being awarded Mirrabooka NAIDOC Elder of the year for 2022!



Lois has been well known and loved among AEF circles for years.

The Lilley family after Church at Karuah—Chaplains, Lorraine and Neville—far right.



Matt. 25:40 ... you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me!

CHAPLAINS **\$ for \$**

FUNDRAISER - 2022! Up to \$10k

of the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship
Family and Youth Services Inc.

The AEFYFS supports 7 experienced Chaplains or couples with a little each week to engage with people who need their support across Australia. That support takes on many forms. Occasionally it's with food or practical items. Sometimes by being the one to advocate for people in crisis. Often to visit; this can be at their homes, hospitals, aged care centres, and more.

Our Chaplains regularly attend community events and speak as elders and leaders within the local communities. Weddings, funerals, church services...you name it! Many times support is offered through phone calls, FB messenger, emails etc. This is a new means to convey an old message – **Jesus is our Hope** and He cares for You right where you are! They are based in Perth, Bunbury, Eden, Port Stephens, Cumeragunja. People from all over the country call on these very compassionate people.

we're seeking to raise \$20,000

to financially sustain this program.

Would you consider coming on board with a one-off or a regular donation?

Bible Society Australia is willing to back your gift DOLLAR for DOLLAR!

So YOU will DOUBLE your help to this worthwhile ministry just by giving!

and get this It's tax deductible too!!



On the back page of our mag. you will see our Bank details. Pls. mark it for Chaplaincy.

From the field - "I don't really get visitors. It really means a lot" - (An elder living alone, speaking on a visit from our Chaplains during the lockdowns.)

From Neville and Lorraine Lilley –

"We appreciate the partnership in ministry with the folk who support the AEF/FYS Community Chaplaincy work. This help is so valuable. Thank you"

Pt. Augusta - NATIONAL AEF CONVENTION is almost here !!

JESUS CHRIST THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER,

Hebrews 13:8

We are looking forward to encouraging you so round up the family and the church mob and come back to Port Augusta.

We have missed you and can't wait to see everyone again from the 31st Dec. 2022 to the 6th of Jan. 2023!

*Excitement is building as we are free to meet together to worship, share and learn more of God's unfailing Word. **BOOK YOUR** own accommodation or flights early! See you there!!*

Our Speaker, Bruce, came to Christ aged 20, after years of trying to find himself through partying while at High School and University. A few years later he went to Bible College and became an Anglican Minister. His passion is to teach people the Word of God as well as evangelise. Brother Bruce and wife Cathey have three adult children. Bruce loves to spend time in or on the sea - fishing, surfing or ocean swimming.

The AEF of Aus. Inc.
welcomes everyone to the
National Convention



Pt. Augusta SA Central Oval
Sat.31st (dinner) to Fri.6th Jan. 2023

SPEAKER: REV. BRUCE CLARKE
SENIOR PS. - ST. MATTS MANLY
AND OTHER NATIONAL
ABORIGINAL SPEAKERS



"Trusting GOD in hard times" Heb 13:5-8

Exciting - KIDS, YOUTH, WOMEN'S, and FAMILY Programs

www.aef.org.au email: aef@aef.org.au 0498611109

AEF NSW news! — Gilgandra Family Camp Over 200 people gathered from across the country to Gilgandra for fellowship and good teaching while sharing in their oneness in Christ.

The Rev Dr Simon Gillham, Dep. Principal of Moore College Sydney spoke on **‘Trusting Jesus in challenging times’**. His messages were well received and all who heard him were most encouraged.

AEF, BCA, and Bible Society joined forces to allow this weekend to happen.

We thank the Bible Society for their gift towards this weekend and the training the weekend before. We’re so very thankful for BCA’s support.

KIDS PROGRAM—The Rev Paul Sampson, and his wife helped coordinate the music for the weekend. BCA’s Indigenous Ministry Officer was also present, along with many of the BCA Nomads. They worked tirelessly over the weekend, helping where they could and filling the gaps to make sure that everything ran like clockwork. FNMT -Ps. Dennis attended with Valda Taylor and he spoke about the roll out of the exciting training program.

People had such an enjoyable time that it was decided that the camp will take place again next year. Please do plan to join us. All are welcome!



Special Congratulations to Ebenezer Aboriginal Services (formely an AEFYS program that has grown immensely) on winning the Mirraboka NAIDOC best Comm. Org. of 2022!!





MON

*** Remember us O Lord!**

Covid Safety for our churches, communities and elders.

* Max Conlon, the Chairman of AEF, and his wife Tracey as they continue in the service of the Lord in Cherbourg Qld and also in many places. Pray for Tracey's ongoing health struggles.

* Pray that our people will come to know Jesus and faithfully follow Him.

* For a Post Covid return to Church attendance.

*The AEF leadership, for wisdom, grace and unity.

* for faithful Shepherds to lead with the heart of God for His people.

* We thank God for the new home office based in Perth which is a blessing to the work.

* Pray that domestic and family violence will cease across the land.



TUES

*** Revive us O Lord!**

2023 Convention IS ON at Pt. AUGUSTA!! Pray for Preaching with Impact to transform lives. May those sharing in it be blessed. For safe travels and for finances for all who attend this important event.

* For the churches that are currently without a Pastor. Lord, send labourers into the harvest.

* The grieving and the lost. The hurting and the hopeless. Send them the hope of the Gospel.

* That the AEF adapt to the ever changing standards for churches and charities.

* For the people of Ukraine and an end to their invasion.

Pray for answers that will bring lasting change for our incarcerated youth.

For Tony Riches at the head office and Francine as they deal with issues from all over the country.



WED

*** Lead us O Lord!**

* **WA Chaplains-** Ps. Dennis Jetta, Ps. Gerald and Jackie Eades in the Perth

* **NSW Chaplains** Denis and Maureen Atkinson at Cumeragunja.

Neville and Lorraine Lilley, John Caton as they all serve in the Port Stephens area.

Ps. Ossie and Robbie Cruse – Eden. Pray for good health.

* The faithful Women's ministries. The National ladies and Eastern ladies committees as they serve God throughout the year.

* For our Volunteer Sally Burton who help's admin.

*Our 20+ AEF Ministers have been called on to help people cope through another difficult year. Refresh them Lord. Send them rest for their souls.

*For the peace of Israel and faith in the Messiah.



THUR



FRI



SAT

*** Sustain us O Lord!**

- ** Pray for revival in our time!
- * Praise for our kind supporters and prayer warriors that uphold us and the work across Australia.
- * for the Ladies Grief, Loss and Trauma program which is being rolled out Nationally. That it will help people in their lives and to find hope in Christ.
- * for financial and other resources needed to run our many vital programs.
- * SCIYP Indigenous Youth Chaplaincy -to get much needed support. Focusing on Youth suicide and Christian hope is the priority at this time. People call us often in distress
- * For Sunday School and the rare youth ministries across the country. Bless them Lord in every way.
- * Pray that we will be able to find solutions to our Climate Change crisis.

*** Teach us O Lord!**

- * Churches across the country and their leaders. As they are under attack from the devil's forces.
- * For young people in need of direction. That they may find their all-in-all in Jesus.
- * Pray for Sunday School and youth programs across the country.
- * AEFYS Chaplains as they seek to support those in the community who are struggling, isolated, discouraged and burdened.
- * Pray for our Aboriginal Christian leaders who are often working beyond their capacity. Many are having health challenges. Pray they get help and rest.
- * For the finance necessary for the AEF's various ministries.
- * That we will see a decline in suicides and greater support for grieving families.

*** First Nations Ministry Training**

- * Ask God for wisdom and grace as Dennis Taylor works on the First Nations Ministry Training program.
- * FNMT NEEDS a Caravan to reach out into communities and remote locations & a good 4wd car to tow it with.
- * Praise God for Bush Church Aid and the Bible Society for their financial backing for this ministry.
- * We are very grateful for the Perth Bible College for their support and room.
- * That our young people will take the opportunity to study God's Word and take up the challenge to become servants of Jesus.
- * Thank God for all He is doing with this work!!

Other

.....
.....
.....



Dubbo Preaching Training -

In the week leading up to the AEF Family Camp, Rev. Phil Wheeler from Moore College, over a three-day period, led a cohort of students through the book of Ruth. We were taught to dig and discover the gems that were contained in the book and where it fitted into historical narrative of the Bible.

Lord Willing, we are hoping that there will be more training next year. We are wanting to have two of these training weeks each year.

There is much to be thankful for. I want to personally thank my NSW AEF committee. Paul Lukin, Deputy Chair, Lois Toney, treasurer; Sharon Powell, Phil and Robbi McFadyen, Kerry Gainsford, Pastor Rod Bird, Kath Bird, Phyllis Morgan, and many others who helped over this weekend.

From Rev. Neville Naden



From the cover page

Our Story: Finding Hope Beyond Grief – facilitates healing through creative expression in a biblical framework anchored in the love of Christ.



We're delighted to start Phase II now with the clinical authors and training facilitators, Keren Masters and Dr. Francine Riches who conducted workshops in Perth and Broome.

Some called it “a time of healing” and “this has been by far the best (workshop)”. The ladies felt so much hope and God’s love through this time. It clearly helped!



Larissa Minniecon, program Co-ordinator, and others travelled to participate. We were also blessed with support from TEARfund to have 3 ladies attend from Adelaide. Thanks to the Balga Evangelical Aboriginal Church and Broome People’s Church/Anglican Church for hosting us. We are so grateful to ADM for the support to make this training possible. *Watch this space!*



There were **22 Bush Church Aid Nomads** who travelled to Gilgandra to serve those who came by preparing the Showgrounds by cleaning bathrooms, kitchen, work, setting up the Hall, the Sound Desk, Projector & doing the registrations etc. All of this kept the Nomads very busy. “We so loved working alongside the Aboriginal AEF brothers and sisters to provide low cost meals”.

The BCA Nomads were greatly blessed & have made lifelong friendships in AEF. Praise & All Honour to God.”

from John & Annie Schipper

Pastors Minute Ps. Tony Riches



Following Covid 19 lockdowns around the world there has been a drop in church attendance of 15%. I think it's worse than that. Where is everyone? We ask... what can be done? But first - there are 4 Shepherd types. Jeremiah mentions Shepherds 17 times. Israel needed shepherds. The ones they had were not what God intended them to be. They were showmen without the heart that God had for His people. If you say with *Ps. 23 The LORD is MY Shepherd*, then this is for you.

#1.- Dangerous shepherds – *Jer. 23:1 “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” says the Lord.* These Shepherds like their authority but not their responsibility. They love attention, not people.

#2. Hired hands – i.e. Shepherds whose hearts are “in it for the money”. *John 10: 12 But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees.* Shepherds who are more interested in their Vacation than their Vocation.

#3. Promised Shepherds – *Back to Jer. 23: 4 I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; ...” says the Lord.* These shepherds are those with a real and living relationship with God and His love drives them in all they do. These are sent by Jesus for the care of His sheep. He cares all the time.

#4. The Chief SHEPHERD – Jesus! One like no other. We answer to Him. *John 10:14 I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.* We are not called on to suffer like He did but we do make sacrifices both in the Church setting and outside of it. We must seek Him daily.

Q? What can today's faithful Post Covid Shepherds do?

1. **Don't** - worry—instead PRAY – 1 Peter 5:6-8
2. **Do** - visit, follow up, call, and connect – once, even twice but don't try too hard. If they are truly God's sheep they will soon be looking for their flock.
3. **Don't** - blame yourself – You weren't promised numbers. That's God's call.
4. **Do** - Reach out – those empty seats might just be ready for new people!
5. **Keep** –looking up - *1 Peter 5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.*

1 Peter 5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,⁷ casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

SCIYP Solid Chaplaincy Indig. Youth Program

SCIYP is back on the road again. Thank GOD!

Tony and Francine Riches were able to visit the top end again for 2 wks. ministry among the churches and families who are battling. They spent time with people who have experienced suicide and thoughts of suicide. In the past 2 years there has been only \$200 donated to support this vital outreach. The Kimberley has lost 3 Key leaders in recent years and a Pastor also left. This makes it even more isolated and finding good, confidential counselling has become very hard.

SCIYP has the links and connections to help families as they face the challenges of drug and alcohol affected individuals and communities with the message of hope in Christ. He is a comforter and strength. He is a Saviour who we need now more than ever, His Name is Jesus! Some people seek other ways and means to deal with their grief and this often makes things worse. In the outback there is more openness to the message of the gospel than we sometimes see in the cities.

One highlight of this trip was time spent in prayer in front of the local shop with a young man who has been struggling with suicidal thoughts and voices. He had left rehab early and was really battling. As the prayer was offered he began to visibly relax and went home and felt a new peace and fell asleep. We supported families at 3 funerals in a week. Grief is everywhere. Please Pray.

AEF National Convention - Dinner



Tickets for the Sat. night 31 Dec. dinner will still be available at the door unless sold out so book early!! The AEF Eastern area Ladies and others will host the program to celebrate 50yrs. of gatherings. Meet our guest speaker and share in fellowship. **Only \$50 each Standpipe Golf Mtr. Inn OPEN from 6.pm at 3 Daw St.**

David F Kirk Memorial Scholarship Fund

*Aboriginal people in training
need your support.
Would you be willing to help
a student through this training
period?*

*Your gift would be most ap-
preciated and it can be sent
to the*

**D. Kirk Memorial
Scholarship Fund
PO Box 136
Tanilba Bay NSW 2319**

AEF and the ICTV Awards! <https://ictv.com.au/video/item/10002>

We are delighted to have been nominated as 1 of the 3 best programs on the ICTV 'Spiritual Way' program. Indigenous Community TV has a variety of video's, including all sorts of Aboriginal Christian programs. This was chosen as one of the best of 300 programs on their page over the past 2.5 years so it's encouraging for all who were involved in making the AEF Online Convention (Monday night) Video. Special thanks to all who were involved including producers Luke and Dan Riches of Ardiol Creative for all their hard work.



aef@aef.org.au

aef.org.au/audio-video/

Watch Us On



PROGRAMS—2023 looks like opening up to more great fellowship events. It has NEVER been easier to support the AEF. There are needs in many areas and we would be happy to give you more information on any ministry.

SUPPORT - There are a few ways to get involved.

- 1 - Direct transfer Bank to Bank. *Highly recommended!*
 - 2 - A Bank deposit of Cash/cheque into the main AEF account below. OR
 - 3 - Posting a cheque or money order to head office. see the address below.
- To be sure we respond please txt the details of the deposit to 0498611109 email a message to us: aef@aef.org.au

PRAY for the many people and the very important programs we run.

*Consider fortnightly **online** support*

Please indicate where you want your gift to go as we have several accounts.

- 1: For **General Support** AEF Inc. National Acc. BSB **082-810** Acc. **18449-5529**
- 2: AEF Family and Youth. **Services Inc.** (deductible gift recipient)
- 3 - David Kirk **Scholarship** fund
- 4 - Community **Chaplaincy** program
- 5 - SCIYP **Youth Chaplaincy** Program
- 6 - Jigamy farm **Youth Camp** Eden.
- 7 - **Other** please specify.....

2 Pet. 3:11... what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God...



NEW
P.O. BOX

Email us: aef@aef.org.au

Web: www.aef.org.au

Post: AEF Inc. P.O. Box 123
Kelmescott WA 6111.