

Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship of Australia Inc.



AEF

MAGAZINE

December 2020

Dec 2020

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Albert and Maxine
Knapp honoured

and more...



Above: Rebekah and Rachel Hubert from SA showing the new Bible supplied by the Bible Society as part of a national support program with the AEF to distribute them to people who need one.

Rom. 10:17 So then FAITH comes by hearing and hearing by the WORD of God.

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 passed on to be with the Lord.



TRIBUTE EVENT FOR

Ps. Albert and Dr. Maxine Knapp

It was a blessing to be able to honour the great work of an amazingly faithful couple for their many years of service to the Lord. They have been role models and leaders who have impacted many lives over the past 40+ years. Among their many achievements, they lived in a block of flats in Melbourne with their children while working to grow the AEF Church there.

While being on the council, their vision to develop training for Aboriginal people was realised when the AEF Bible College of WA was opened. It helped prepare many for life and ministry. While heading this up, Albert Pastored the AEF Queens Park Church in Perth. Dr. Maxine was a speaker and an active member of the AEF Ladies at State and National level. For her studies into the history of the AEF work, Maxine awarded a Phd.; a great achievement! As the Pastor, he gave the students opportunity to model and practice their learning. Some went on to be great Christian leaders and, more importantly, strong believers. The Knapps still serve in a Chaplaincy role with the AEF and it was a delight to be able to honour them for their work so far through a dinner held in Perth in Nov. Gerald and Jacqueline Eades and the Knapp's own children, helped organise this great event. Join us in our prayers for Maxine as her health has deteriorated in recent years.



from the Chair...

Bless you all as you prepare for Christmas and the New year. This has been a hard year for many of our mob but we want to encourage you to keep on going for the Lord. He loves you and he knows your situation. Trust Him to see you through to better days and our great hope -heaven. From Tracey and myself, we wish you all a Merry Christmas . Love ya 's all. Ps. Max Conlon

Chaplains – As the pressure of isolation was forced on people the Chaplains were contacted for support and the need for a listening ear was greater throughout this time than ever. The AEF was able to provide some food parcels and support to some families, elderly and shut in people who were so grateful to see the care of God's people. We can't underestimate the impact of the acts of compassion when God's people meet community needs. The Chaplains continue to be available online or over the phone to help people in times of crisis. Some people won't reach out to a church but they do appreciate our Chaplains. This work is well worth supporting. If you can see the benefits of this please pray for us and give to help this work to continue and grow. Many thanks TEAR Aus. for the support to help with the food program.

Peter M, from Sydney, is a very long term giver to the AEF.

I asked him to tell us what motivated him and here is his reply -

The reluctance of white Christians to trust indigenous organisations with

money, and our broader societal politics - are holding back indigenous believers: who are white hot and represent a higher proportion of their ethnicity than whites do of theirs.

Whatever one makes of the politics, the fact remains, no one can reach and serve the indigenous like the indigenous. To admit that ministry of the indigenous, by the indigenous, and for the indigenous - is timely: is not only now biblical: it is for Australian Christians repentance."







*Left—Some happy snaps from the Port Augusta Convention 2020
above—Trevor Altman and Ruth Pindan*

Prayer liftout

Emily and Ps. Ian Crombie from Coober Pedy





MON



TUES



WED

*** Remember us O Lord!**

* Max Conlon, the Chairman of AEF and his wife Tracey as they continue in the service for the of the Lord through the National AEF and AEF Family and youth services. Tracey has been working through health concerns and Max has taken a large number of funerals where they minister in Cherbourg Qld and also in many places.

* Neville & Kathy Naden as they settle into their new home in the Maitland area and for their important roles with the AEF Committees.

* that God will raise up a new generation of committed servant leaders.

* for the support of the Family and Yth. Services Inc. as giving has been in decline. Through the Covid time the AEF operating costs are almost the same.

* we need a new generation of praying givers.

*** Revive us O Lord!**

* Our 20+ AEF Ministers have been called on to help people cope through this difficult year. Many funerals are part of their work. Pray for resources for them to fulfil their ministry and for rest.

* for the Halls Creek WA church that's currently without a Pastor.

* The faithful Women's ministries across the country. Also the National ladies and Eastern ladies committees as they seek, discern and serve God's plan throughout the upcoming year.

* The grieving and the lost. The hurting and the hopeless. Send them the hope of the Gospel. Send your people into their way Lord Jesus and open their hearts to the Light of the Gospel.

*** Lead us O Lord!**

* For Christian witness for workers who serve God across the country. May the Spirit move through the words they share.

* Pray for revival. So many heartaches as people are dying at a rapid rate. Suicide continues to be an all too common cause of death and sadly many are very young, even an 11 yr. old girl in WA... Pray for their families and the causes of hopelessness to change.

* Pray for Aunty Maureen Atkinson as she continues to recover from surgery to remove blood loss into the brain. Her faith is an inspiration. Ps. Denis is also recovering very well from surgery.

* AEF State Councils as they navigate their local complex issues with uncertainty about the future events which are so very needed for the Aboriginal Christian community.

*** Sustain us O Lord!**

* for financial support and other resources needed to run the many exciting programs.

* WA Chaplains- Ps. Dennis and his wife Wilma Jeta, Ps. Albert and Maxine Knapp . Ps. Gerald and Jackie Eades in the Perth area in their phone and Fb music ministry. Maxine has not been in good health.

* NSW – Chaplains, Neville and Lorraine Lilley, John and Dot Caton as they do serve in the Port Stephens area. Neville is recovering at home from some time in hospital. Ps. Ossie and Robbie Cruse are in Eden where he also Pastors the church. Much of their work is by phone and email right now. Pray for good health and strength for them all.

* Pray for Ps. Dennis Taylor and wife Valda as they are dealing with another loss in the family. Dennis is the AEF Treasurer.

*** Teach us O Lord!**

* For Ps. Tony and Francine Riches at the National Head Office in Melbourne. They have many seeking advice and support by phone and email from all over Australia.

*That we might be able to have 2021 Easter ministries and camps.

* For the SCIYP Indigenous Youth Chaplaincy to get much needed support to train up and send out workers into the harvest. Focussing on Youth suicide and Christian hope is the focus now.

Pray for Basil and Roselyn Coleman as they serve with Ps. Don Hayward in SA.

* Pray for our faithful widows who have been tireless witnesses to the grace of our Lord Jesus.

* Praise for our kind supporters and prayer warriors that uphold us and the work across Australia.

*** Guide us O Lord!**

* Pray for Ps. Chris and Karen Webb in Broome. Chris takes many funerals throughout the Kimberley.

* For Local Churches everywhere. That the Name of Jesus Christ be honoured faithfully.

* Pray for the health of our leaders and their families.

* Bimbadeen Inc. has moved from Cootamundra and will be seeking God for discipleship and other training.

* New Bible College plans. Ask God for wisdom and grace as we look to establish a new Bible and ministry training program to help people in their walk with the Lord and for service in the church.

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Jared Katinyeri playing drums at the Convention in Port Augusta

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While people below listen to the Preaching of the Word!

Prayer liftout





Be honest. Most of us love Christmas because of the food. Family and presents are good too, but food makes up for a lot of the plans that go into our Christmas time. It's a blessing to have a feast and even more so when you can share it with people. What happens when it's over? As good as it is, it can still leave you hungry.

The Bible gives us some good news when you know you need something more -
Psalm 107:9 For He satisfies the longing soul,

And fills the hungry soul with goodness.

The dark cloud of disappointment disappears when we are FULL with God's love.

Through the Christmas story, the Gospel bursts into our darkness with the Father of the Universe sending His Son, Jesus, to rescue us. He had no comforts, no red carpet, no party to celebrate His coming. A small, precious human baby had an army sent out to kill Him.

Humble - would be the best word to speak of His appearing to become our Saviour that night in Bethlehem. 30 years later at the predicted place in Capernaum, Jesus picked up Isaiah's prophecy and showed us that it pointed to HIM! Matthew 4:16 The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." **Without Him** we are still in the dark when it comes to God and the eternal future we will face. He came - Acts 26:18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.

From all of us at the AEF— May all your celebrations of our KING Jesus, be—with HIM





Pastors Minute

Covid-19 vs. 2021 – What a year of change we have seen. None of us could have seen what 2020 was going to throw at us. As Australia starts to get control of the way we deal with the risks of more breakouts, we are all hoping that a vaccine or treatment to put an end to this. Why? So we can get back to normal.

CHANGE has been forced on us and the constant pressure of isolation has not been good at all. HOW well did you get through it? Our patience is still being tested and we need to have more. Did you dig in and refuse to adjust to the new ways? Was Christ honoured? Did you grow or slip in your walk with Him? Would you have done something differently knowing what you know now?

We can't help it when things change around us but we can respond to it in a way that shows who we are as God's children. In the book of Revelation we are told that there is more change coming on the earth (we don't know when) that will test everyone alive on the planet. Before that makes you worry, it also says this first- Rev 1: 7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him,...8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Whatever else changes – He changes NOT. He is ALL MIGHTY and He is coming. He is trustworthy. He sees it all and knows how we are going. If you are His child—YOU will be with Him forever! So when your eyes on HIM – His plans – His work- then (and only then) you can get through anything. You really can!

Life is full of unwanted CHANGES so - Go with it, ride the wave of change, the storm will pass, the sun will still rise in the morning, God is still on the throne! We can grow in grace and decide to trust Him OR do what comes naturally – grumble and complain.

CHOOSE WELL. People are watching!

Ps. Tony Riches

2 Peter 3:11-13 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. (NKJV)

BIMBADEEN *has moved on!*

The training and many happy events that were shared over the years at Bimbadeen has come to an end. - - - We would love to hear from you with photos and/or testimonies of your time as a student or as someone who attended one of the men's, ladies or family camps there. We thank God for the faithful work there and for the many who went out into ministry under the Atkinson's and others' teaching ministry. May God bless them in their retirement. IMPORTANTLY- Bimbadeen Inc. will continue to provide Christian training in Sydney etc. Pray for this new era. contact Rick Manton (Chairman)

The first donation has come in, specifically marked for the develop-

AEF Bible College Plans

ment of our proposed AEF Bible College! We are working toward opening as soon as possible. It goes without saying that 2020 has been a write off for any new works, especially one that is as important as training people for the much needed area of Aboriginal Ministry. It has been a set-back but it would have been a disaster if we had started and then stop and send everyone home. God knew! His timing is perfect.

Many people have shown an interest in Bible College training to prepare for ministry. The AEF has worked to create pathways for those that God is calling into HIS service. Many details need to be worked through to get started with course work that fits with the needs of people from all over Australia. It's exciting to see what God is going to do in this vital area. Please pray and if you can, give toward this amazing opportunity.

SCIYP Solid Chaplaincy Indig. Youth Program

*Sadly there have been many people finding life too hard and not worth fighting for in 2020. This year has seen a spike in the number who took their lives. Our hearts go out to the families left behind and to those who are stuck in those dark thoughts. **Those who wait on the Lord will find new strength.** He loves you and He promised. God always keeps His promises.*

**If you need someone to talk to we encourage you to reach out to us, your church, family, or people you trust. You can know the LIGHT of LIFE—JESUS!*

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? Most study online now. Your gift would be most appreciated and it can be sent to the

**D. Kirk Memorial Scholarship Fund
PO Box 118**

**Tanilba Bay NSW 2319
Telephone: 0419500092**



Above: Gods dreaming banner— The Gospel in art form

aef@aef.org.au

aef.org.au/audio-video/



PROGRAMS—2021 should see us bounce back to more great fellowship. It has NEVER been easier to support the AEF. There is a great need in many areas and we would be happy to give you more information on anything we do.

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.

Would you please txt the details of the deposit to 0438428957 or email a message to us: aef@aef.org.au

SEND it to us: see below

Consider monthly online support

MEMBERSHIPS ONLINE

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.....

please add in the bank Reference: Your name (or your church's) and write: MEM (for member) so we will know that it's for you.

Email us: aef@aef.org.au

Web: aef.org.au

Post: AEF Inc. P.O .221 Highpoint City VIC 3032.