

St Paul's in the Park Newsletter July 2025

Trusting God

There is a story of a mountain climber who was climbing a tall peak on his own. The climb took longer than he had planned and night fell as he was climbing a ridge when he slipped and fell. Visibility was zero as he plunged downwards. He was quite certain that he was falling to his death when he felt a sharp jolt that almost tore him in half.

Like any good mountain climber he had staked himself with a long rope tied to his waist. He hung there, suspended in the air. He couldn't see a thing and in desperation he called out, 'Help me, God. Please help me.'

All of a sudden, he heard a deep voice, 'What do you want me to do?' 'Save me!' cried the climber. 'Do you really think I can save you?' 'Of course, God, of course.' 'Then cut the rope that is holding you up.'

There was another moment of silence and stillness. The man just held tighter to the rope.

The next day, the rescue team found a frozen climber hanging strongly to a rope....one metre off the ground.

How is our trust in God? How strong is our faith? Would we have the faith to cut the rope?

We need to cut the rope and simply put our trust in God.

'Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:9.

Build

We are now looking at moving in the week beginning 4 August, which means our first service will be Sunday 10 August at our usual time 9.30am. We will be very much getting settled in that day, and so we are planning to make Sunday 17 August our celebration service. You are most welcome to join us – it will be a grand occasion! The consecration service remains scheduled for Sunday 31 August at 2.00pm.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, you might like to contribute to the purchase of fitout items required for us to function effectively as a church and a community centre. Options are:

Two computers @ \$2,000 each, media computer and hard drives (capable of media show and live streaming) \$3,500, four screens for community centre rooms @ \$1,800 each, feature table for foyer \$1,000, table for boardroom \$2,000, eight chairs for boardroom @ \$250 each, chairs for the main auditorium - \$180 each. (06 0991 0056055 01 Mission Dst of St Pauls in the Pk F)

Room Names

It was decided that the rooms needed official names, something that would reflect the nature of our core business, which of course is our Christian calling. We came up with the idea of names associated with St Paul (St Paul's in the Park!), and so here they are. It is our intention to have a small plaque at the entrance to each room with its name and the few words of explanation.

Large Auditorium	DAMASCUS AUDITORIUM	Paul's dramatic encounter with God <i>Place for people to meet God.</i>
Counselling Room	EPHESUS ROOM	Paul ministered for several years <i>Place for ministry into people's lives</i>
Board Room	ANTIOCH ROOM	Followers first called Christians <i>Place for our Vestry and other planning meetings.</i>
Small Lounge	CORINTH ROOM	Paul wrote important letters from here <i>Place for Christian love & other Fruits of the Spirit</i>

Robust Lounge	PHILIPPI ROOM	First European church founded <i>Place for change, transition and moving onward.</i>
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Finances

Our treasurer, Lloyd Powys, will give a fuller report in our next newsletter, but to date we are very much in the red in terms of our church operation. I appreciate that there is considerable pressure on families in terms of budgeting at the moment, but it's important to keep our church in mind as we manage our expenditure.

Time for a Smile

During a bank robbery, the police chief told the sergeant to cover all exits so the robbers could not get away. Later, the sergeant reported to the chief, 'Sorry, sir, but they got away.' The chief, very disappointed, said, 'I told you to cover all exits.' 'I did,' replied the sergeant, 'but they got away through the entrance.'



To Ponder

'You can complain because roses have thorns or you can rejoice because thorns have roses.' Ziggy.

To Ponder Further

I came across this verse yesterday and I couldn't help but feel it is so very appropriate for us at any time, but especially where we are now with regards the journey we have been on and our imminent move into our new complex.

'And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.' Romans 8:28.

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