## Thursday 9 May 2024

## GWAC happenings





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

#### JUMBUNNA MINISTRY CONFERENCE: A GREAT BLESSING!

(by Rev'd Maria Brand)

This week, Gordon, Ginger, Brad and I attended the Jumbunna Ministry Conference. We were blessed to be led by Bishop Paul, encouraged and challenged by profound Bible studies and talks by exceptional servants of Christ and buoyed by the fellowship and partnership in the gospel that we share with fellow Anglican ministers in our area of Melbourne.

Brad reflects, "To start with, the speaker Dr Yohanna, was a miracle himself, a Palestinian by birth, Israeli by citizenship and Christian by faith. Hearing news of God's work in Palestine and Israel was a highlight of the conference. Dr. Yohanna shared many stories of how God is active in the Middle East growing the church. He spoke of Arabs and Jews training for ministry at the Nazareth Bible School where he teaches, the faith and work of the church in Palestine, and the work to translate the Bible into common Arabic for the people of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and 60 million Arabic speakers around the world who currently have only an old, formal Arabic Bible to read, the equivalent of a King James Version.

Gordon says, "I appreciated the opportunities to engage with other ministers and learn from their rich experiences and wisdom. Dr. Yohanna Katanacho's insightful Bible study on the Gospel of John from Palestinian Christian perspective left a deep impression on me. I am encouraged by Yohann's amazing faith journey, which demonstrate how God transformed an atheist who grew up in a hostile and difficult environment into a powerful instrument for evangelizing the Arabs. I was also inspired by Rev. Mike Raiter's talking on 'how to keep preaching fresh', which provided not only a timely and important reminder for busy ministers, but also a number of practical pointers for the journey of sermon preparation.





Ginger shares: "I learnt more about prayer in the encouragement By Bishop Alison to keep our prayer life fresh. She encouraged us that prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God and the requesting of good things from God. Also, prayer is a spiritual communication between a person and God, not only to ask for things, but also to listen to God. She reminded us of the framework of ACTS, adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication in prayer. She reminded us that in our weakness the Holy Spirit can intercede for us (Rom 8:26).

The conference has further equipped us for refreshed ministry with you all and we are grateful to God for the blessing of this enrichment for our faith and ministry.

# THIS SUNDAY (12 MAY): MOTHER'S DAY

**Speaker:** Maria Brand

- 8am (with Lord's Supper)
- 10.30am (with Lord's Supper)
- 5pm (with Lord's Supper)

## NEXT WEEK (15 MAY) WED 10AM SERVICE

An interactive visit from a CMS link missionary. Please attend and be inspired!



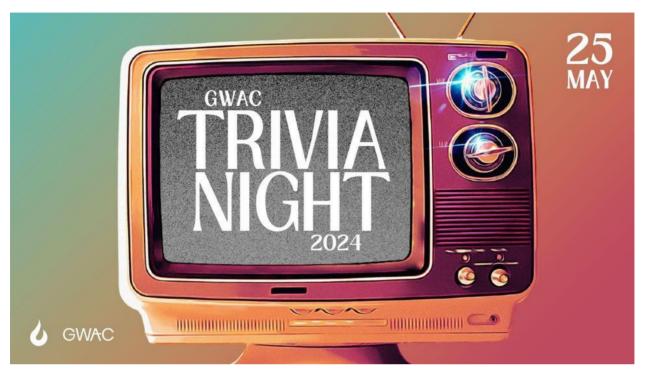
## **STILL OPEN!** GIFT DAY 2024

Thank you for all your contributions to Gift Day, which was held on 5<sup>th</sup> May for the Sunday services and 8<sup>th</sup> May for the Wednesday service.

Gift Day is still open! If you would like to contribute, Gift Day cards are available at the Welcome Desk or transfers can be made directly to St Barnabas Glen Waverley Anglican Church, BSB 033009, Account number 108940, or you can give through the app. Please use 'Gift Day' as a reference.

We give thanks to God, both for the generous response to Gift Day, and for the ongoing, regular offerings and donations we receive. We rely on these to continue our Kingdom work. (NOTE: Please also see "Finance Update" on page-4)





## TRIVIA NIGHT, SAT 25 MAY 7-9.30PM: REGISTER NOW

This is a fundraising event raising support for our youth ministry. All funds will go towards helping youth and leaders to attend the Ignite Camp in September.

- Register a full table of 10 people for \$150 (in a pinch we can probably squeeze in one more person).
- Register part of a table or as an individual for \$20 per person.
- The evening will be full of trivia, games, a silent auction, and other activities. Bring a sack full of gold coins ready to join in the fun.

### Catering

Each table will provide their own supper and cold drinks. If you are booking a table, communicate with your team members to organise a feast. Hot drinks will be provided.

#### **Silent Auction**

We are gratefully receiving items to be auctioned on the night. Please contact Brad if you have an item to offer for the auction.

**Registration:** Please click <u>HERE</u> to register online. You can also register through the App home page. Signup sheets/ Registration Cards are also available at church.



### MOTHERS' UNION & FRIENDS: THURSDAY 23 MAY

Did you make biscuits at Easter to be given to prisoners? Do you know about the ministry of **Prison Fellowship Australia?** This month we welcome to our meeting of Mothers Union & Friends, **Ian Whitehill**, a very engaging speaker who enlightens his audience about the work of Prison Fellowship Australia. MU & Friends invite you to join us on this occasion, Thursday 23 May, 1.30pm in MR1&2. Please come.

## FINANCE UPDATE: OCT'23- APR'24

Income & Expenses: Oct23-Apr24	
	\$
Income	\$529,767
Expenses	\$568,334
Shortfall	(\$38,567)

Currently our income is not covering our expenses. The shortfall for October - April is \$38,567.

We give grateful thanks for all who contribute financially to the life of GWAC ministries and for your ongoing support.

## **VALE ENO MENDIS**

We extend sympathy to the family and friends of Eno Mendis, a faithful member of GWAC, who died last Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024. May the God of all comfort embrace Eno's husband, Mark, and the family at this time of loss. Eno's funeral will take place next week at GWAC, on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm. The service will also be livestreamed from GWAC's website: <a href="https://www.gwac.org.au/livestream/">https://www.gwac.org.au/livestream/</a>

Blessings,

Maria Brand | Lead Minister (Vicar)

A caring community making, maturing and mobilizing disciples of Jesus Christ, locally and globally

