



# Prayer Points

Please pray for the following;

- that the Lord would have His way at Marryatville High School;
- that God will put David where it will best serve the work he does;
- the Marryatville High School community as it changes to accept Year 7 students;
- the stability and constancy of chaplaincy in schools – Thank you Father;
- for students struggling with identity;
- for students and staff confronted by grief;
- for the ongoing success of the Christian Options Program at Burnside Primary School;
- for the mentors in the Kids Hope Program and the children they work with at Burnside Primary School;
- ongoing encouragement to share faith in school;
- thanking God for the opportunity;
- staff and Sarah and the needs of the school;
- the Christian Club at Glenunga International High School.

**Sheila**

**Chehade**

Burnside Primary  
School

**Tim**

**Wells**

Marden Senior  
College

**Sarah**

**Mercorella**

Glenunga  
International  
High School

**David**

**Dienes**

Marryatville  
High School

## Burnside InterChurch Council Inc Schools' Ministry and Pastoral Care Worker Reports Term 2 2021

### Christian Options Programs (COP)

COPs explore what Christians believe by looking at the Bible and the life and teachings of Jesus. We need a team of about 10 people to run the COP for years 6 and 7 students at Burnside Primary School. There is some acting involved for some team members but the majority of the time is spent relating with the kids and engaging them in the content. Students are divided into small groups to allow discussion and questions. Feedback from students is always positive and the questions they ask are a good reflection of their willingness to engage with the program. The probable dates are in the weeks ending with 30th July, 6th Aug and 20th Aug. It's a 3 week program, one day per week (with a gap in the middle for camp!). The actual dates will depend on the availability of our team members. If you are interested in helping in these important programs, contact the leader, Alison Russell 0432 144 912 or [alisonelrussell@gmail.com](mailto:alisonelrussell@gmail.com).

### Pastoral Care Workers support group report

We had our second meeting for Term 2 last week and once again the reports from our PCWs show how vitally they are needed in our schools and the effective work they are doing. Earlier this month Tim Wells spoke at my church (Knightsbridge Baptist) as part of our May Missions Month and it was very informative and well received. I would encourage you, if you haven't recently had one of our PCWs to speak at your church, to invite one to come and share with your congregation the excellent work that is being done by PCWs in our local public schools. This I am sure will be a great encouragement to your congregation to pray and to continue to support our local churches' involvement and giving to this important work. The presence of our PCWs in their schools is indeed a blessing. Catherine Carr (PCW prayer support group coordinator)

### Prayer Breakfasts

Last week the Council decided to restart Prayer Breakfasts. For this year, they will all be held at the Burnside Family Church, 88 Lockwood Rd, from 7.30 to 9.00 am on the first Saturday in each month, beginning 07 August. Come and enjoy an excellent breakfast, friendly chat, hearing news of local churches, worshipping together and a time of shared prayers – in small groups – for local needs and the needs of the world.

**Tim Wells**  
**Marden Senior College**

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I was very pleased to attend Knightsbridge Baptist Church earlier this month. As with all visits to member churches of the Burnside Inter-Church Council, I was met with a warm welcome and a positive, supportive response. Speaking at church gatherings affords the opportunity to reflect on our work and the 'special stories' we are privileged to be part of.

Working with students is a privilege as they allow us into their 'stories,' their joys, their sorrows and the trust they demonstrate in allowing us to participate in the resolution of problems, barriers, worries and tragedy. At Marden Senior College, I am privileged to have access to the students' mindsets, through my work with the Student Governing Association – SGA. There is anxiety, fear of failure and fear of missing out (FOMO – a new issue brought about by the social media phenomenon). There is tragedy in the lives of young people – the loss of parents and grand-parents and also of much-loved students by misadventure. Life for all of us in recent times has been unpredictable, almost surreal. Many of our younger folk find this unsettling and for some it is the cause of significant anxiety. Life has changed very quickly. Therefore, the stability, the unfailing presence and the rock of support afforded by pastoral care in schools has become so much more important.

Students have enjoyed the surety of breakfast every Monday morning. Many 'bank' on *bread* being there on a Tuesday morning – not just because its free bread but because its 'normal.' Students have approached me about *relationship issues*, some about their *struggles academically*. Others are confused by *where they fit* into society – *if they fit* at all. *Financial issues* and *nutrition* continue to be barriers to happy learning. Staff too are being *confronted by change*, for some, radical change that *impacts on their lifestyle*. They too, like all of us, are challenged by the changed nature of living in a Covid world. The stability and constancy of chaplaincy on campus becomes less of a 'value add,' and more of a solid foundation upon which to rely. There is too little space to outline stories of despair turned to hope – just italicized words and underlined phrases. Speaking to a congregation affords the time to reflect, celebrate and thank God for the privilege we have in the lives of young people, their families and the staff who serve them. Blessings and thanks always, Tim.

**David Dienes**  
**Marryatville High School**

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Marryatville High School is undergoing significant changes. In some ways, a school that doesn't change is a school that is left behind. The physical changes being made here are mainly in preparation for next year's increase in student numbers. Next year Marryatville High School will not only welcome a new year 8 cohort, but also a new year 7 cohort for the first time. The state government has led this change in line with other states; offering years 7s the specialist facilities and teaching that high schools offer. As a result, Marryatville has hired a team to see where the school can expand and build to accommodate the extra students. My office in student services will be moved to make way for a new classroom. This move could result in me being placed with the year 9 and 10 wellbeing leaders to help them with students that come through to them. Please pray that God will put me where it will best serve the work I do here.

Along with new building plans, plans to start a breakfast club and to host the Two Roads program are being made. The breakfast club is pending on leadership to finalise the details. Students from the Student Representative Council are willing to help and Melvin from Austral-Asian Community Church has been able to organise volunteers to come and help as well. I'm looking forward to seeing the fruit that the collaboration of volunteers will have for the students who will benefit from the breakfast, and the relationships that develop between the church members and students. The Two Roads program aims to help young men find meaning and direction during an important transitional time in their lives. Nick from the Burnside Family Church will lead a team of mature Christian men with lots of life experience to help the boys find which road to take. I'm looking forward to seeing how Nick and the team reach these young men and the transition they make as a result.

Please continue to pray for everyone at the school, that the Lord would have His way here, and that many would come to the saving grace offered by our loving Father.

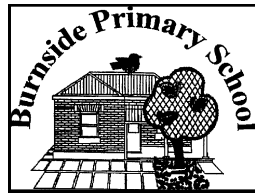
Thank you for all your support.

David

## Sheila Chehade

### Burnside Primary School

Sheila.chehade802@schools.sa.edu.au



Before I talk about this Term, let me tell you about the Christian Options Easter Program at Burnside Primary at the end of last term.

Ally Russell and a team of volunteers led the students on an interactive, engaging and thought-provoking journey through the Easter story. Over 700 of our students attended and the questions they asked at the end showed they were really thinking about what they had heard. Here are some of the questions asked by the students:

'If Jesus is the most powerful King, what about God?'

'Is God Real?'

'Can Jesus make us alive again?'

'Is Jesus still alive today?'

'Who is God's Father?'

'Did Jesus get married?'

'How was Jesus a King?'

'If Jesus is King, why can't he make Covid go away?'

It wouldn't be an Easter presentation if someone didn't ask about how the Easter Bunny and Easter eggs fit in, but taking the time to answer these questions provided another opportunity to go deeper into what Easter is all about. If just some of the hundreds of children who unwrapped a hollow Easter egg thought about the empty tomb this Easter and considered Jesus and the real meaning of Easter, then it was worth every bit of effort put into it by this faithful team.

Term 2 is up and running with some Covid restrictions now relaxed. This has allowed parents back into the classrooms and more activities across the school. The Kids Hope Program continues to grow and I have heard many wonderful stories from our mentors about how relationships are growing deeper. This program has allowed a further 9 hours a week of individual support for students and is highly regarded by the staff and families. I read this week that every 69 seconds there is a cry for help from a child to the Kids Helpline. That's an increase of 40% over last year so it's great that we can have mentors supporting students in this way. Thanks for your prayers and support.

## Sarah Mercorella

### Glenunga International High School

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Hello all! Hope everyone is keeping warm and well.

Term two is off to a great start here at Glenunga!

The school has been buzzing with tours and its open day.

There is a lot happening in student life, with a number of the student-led clubs running whole school events to raise awareness and celebrate occasions and events important to them. The clubs will also collectively be participating in a charities day in a couple of weeks' time.

The Christian Club has had visits from a few different local youth pastors which they loved. This included a Q&A panel where students were invited to ask questions, an encouragement on sharing faith in school and practical tips on how to build a relationship with God.

Several teachers in the school have also recommended weekly prayer meetings (which I have been able to attend most weeks), which is building such a level of faith and expectancy - and good opportunities for myself and staff to pray for needs in the school.

I look forward to more exciting things to report next term, and as always - thank you for your ongoing prayer and support

*Sarah*

## **The Burnside InterChurch Council Inc**

### **Tax-deductible donations to chaplaincy in local schools**

You can now make tax-deductible gifts to help fund our chaplaincy services in local schools. For legal reasons, the money needs to go via the Schools Ministry Group (SMG), which employs the Pastoral Care Workers, with a clear indication it is for the benefit of Burnside ICC.

There are several options. In every case, we would like to acknowledge your gift so that you know that it has finished up in the correct place. To enable that to happen, please follow the suggested steps below.

The process for donating using the SMG website and a credit card looks complex. Although there are many steps, each one is simple.

#### **(1) Donate by cheque:**

Send a cheque to:

Schools Ministry Group  
12 Angus Ave  
EDWARDSTOWN SA 5039

and clearly indicate it is for the benefit of Burnside ICC  
and ask for a receipt.

#### **(2) Donate by credit card (Visa, MasterCard or American Express):**

##### **a) By phone**

Ring 8378 6800 with your credit card in hand.

Clearly indicate it is for the benefit of Burnside ICC and ask for a receipt.

##### **(b) By the internet**

- Go to the SMG website: <https://smg.asn.au>
- Click on "Donate" in the top line, right hand end
- Click on the left hand end box "Chaplaincy Services"
- Click on "One-off Donation" or "Regular Donation"
- Click on one of the boxes with suggested amounts OR type your amount in the empty box at the right hand end of the row.
- Click on "Give Now".
- Complete your details using the form which appears on the screen. (Begin landline phone numbers with "08".)
- Click on the small box alongside "Notify someone of your donation".

In the long box which appears in the next line, type in:

[m.c.lake@bigpond.net.au](mailto:m.c.lake@bigpond.net.au)

This is the email address of our Treasurer. We need it so that we can send you an acknowledgement of your gift.

- There is a small handling charge for the use of the electronic system (2.4%). Normally this is added to your donation and is shown at "Cover platform fee".
- If you want SMG to have to pay it, click on "Remove".
- Check all your entries AND click in the box at the bottom.
  - Enter your card details and click "Submit".

(The system moves from one field to the next automatically.)

You can then log out of the donation part of the system and also out of the SMG system or out of the internet completely.

You should receive a receipt by email very quickly.

Thank you for your gift.

( Rev 2021)

## ***The Burnside InterChurch Council Inc***

### **Dates for 2014**

Further details will be advised closer to the time.

#### **February**

Prayer Breakfast	7.30 am	01	Burnside City UC
Executive	3.00pm	12	Burnside City UC
Council	2.00pm	25	Austral-Asian Community C

#### **March**

World Day of Prayer - 10.30 am on Friday 07 March 2014.

at Salvation Army, 55 George St, Norwood. Followed by morning tea.

Material prepared by Egypt

#### **May**

Prayer Breakfast	7.30 am	03	Glenunga UC
Executive	3.00pm	14	Burnside City UC
Council	2.00pm	27	Location TBA

#### **August**

Executive	3.00pm	13	Burnside City UC
Council	2.00pm	26	Location TBA

#### **September**

Prayer Breakfast	7.30 am	06	Knightsbridge BC
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#### **November**

Prayer Breakfast	7.30 am	01	Burnside Family Church
Executive	3.00pm	05	Burnside City UC
Council	2.00pm	18	Burnside City UC

The Prayer Breakfasts for the months of March, April, June, July, August, October and December will be held at St. Matthew's.

Norwood Christmas Pageant is a Saturday morning in late November - not yet fixed.