

We are delighted to have you with us at this time, and pray that you will experience the deep love of God the Father as you share in the life of his church.

Christmas Shoeboxes

Thank you to everyone for their generosity in donating **471 boxes**, and extra items, to the Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal this year – the boxes are already on their way to Cambodia and Thailand. In total WA collected 37,925 boxes!



India Mission Trip

As this edition of *Together* goes to print, the Salt team are still in India. We would like to thank the Church for their financial and prayer support. It has been an amazing time of ministry at the Maranatha Baptist Bible College and the Living Word Children's Home. The children have immensely enjoyed the after-school kids program, the soccer clinic, and the Christmas party that the team have run. There have been many meaningful times with the children. The teaching ministry with the Bible College students has been rewarding and it has been exciting to be able to provide them with new musical equipment. As a team, we have been thoroughly blessed and enriched by the experience. – Jonathan Anthony

Dec/Jan Office Closures

Over the Christmas/New Year break the Church and College office will close at midday on **Friday 23 December** and reopen on **Tuesday 3 January 2017**. The offices will also be closed from **Tuesday 17 - Thursday 19 January** for the annual staff retreat. For emergencies during these times, please call 9329 1777 and an emergency number will be given to you. All the staff from the Church and the College wish you a blessed and joyful Christmas and a happy New Year!

Family News:

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY to:

Stephanie and David Wilmot, on the passing on 19 October of David's father, **Fred Wilmot**, a long-standing member of Riverton Baptist Church.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Mia Formentin and Mark Matthiessen who were married on 26 November.

Elaine Hedley who has been awarded the City of Melville's Mayor's Valued Citizen Award for her 17 plus years of voluntary service with St John of God Hospital, Murdoch.

Ian Hunt who was honoured at the WA Education Dept Awards night in receiving the "People's Choice Award" for his outstanding work among students and parents at Perth Modern.

MEMBERSHIP

Daniel Ford, Rishan & Salome Perera, Reggie & Esther McNeill, Ian & Vi Do



If you have items of family news that you would like included in this section in future months, forward details to the Church office.

If you have any pastoral or prayer needs, please fill out a Request CARE Card at the Info Point. This will give us the opportunity to care for you.

Morning Tea Roster

There is an urgent need for more teams to serve on the Morning Tea roster for Sunday mornings in 2017, so we can all enjoy a coffee or tea after the services. If you can get a group of four together (family or friends) to bless the church community in this way, please contact Brigitte Field: brigitte.field@mounties.org.au

Urgent Request For Bibles

If you have any spare Bibles at home, please bring them in and leave at the Info Point. They will be used to bless others through a wide range of organisations including Seafarers, YWAM, the Newman Mission, social services and rehabilitation programs.

FINANCES

Our financial reporting is based on a calendar year (January to December)

Giving to the Church Operating and Missional Links account

BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET (31 OCTOBER 2016)	
	\$1,469,538	
ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL:	YTD DEFICIT:
	\$1,381,658	-\$87,880

Giving to the Building Fund as at 31 October 2016

YTD ACTUAL:	ANNUAL TARGET:
\$418,033	\$400,000

For all giving enquiries:
finance@mounties.org.au or 9329 1777.

You can pay for church related events including camps via our EFTPOS machine at the Info Point each Sunday morning.

For Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) of offerings and donations please use the Commonwealth Bank details adjacent:

Church Offerings: (No tax receipt)

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
BSB 066-124
Acc No. 0090 3735

College Donations: (No tax receipt)

Mount Pleasant Baptist Community College
BSB 066-163
Acc No. 1036 7831

Building Fund Donations: (Tax receipt)

Mount Pleasant Baptist Community College
BSB 066-163
Acc No. 1036 7858

Please include your full name

THE BOOK SHOP

Look out for the new Book Shop flyer to be released shortly.

The Book Shop expects to be closed from 21 December, reopening on Sunday 22 January 2017, so remember to stock up on all your books, DVDs, cards, calendars and gifts by then!



OPENING TIMES:

Sunday: 9.45am-10.30am
11.45am-12.30pm

Wednesday: 9.00am-1.30pm
(during school terms)

Order online now at
mounties.org.au/bookshop

Booragoon Campus | College | Office:
497 Marmion Street, Booragoon WA 6154

Coolbellup Campus:
68 Waverley Road, Coolbellup WA 6163

Postal Address:
PO Box 4095, Myaree BC WA 6960
Phone: 9329 1777 **Fax:** 9329 1711

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday: 9.00am – 4.30pm
Office Email: contact@mounties.org.au
College Email: contact@mpc.wa.edu.au
The Book Shop: bookshop@mpc.wa.edu.au



The Hub is MPBC's online directory and registration system. For more information and to get connected, go to mounties.org.au/thehub

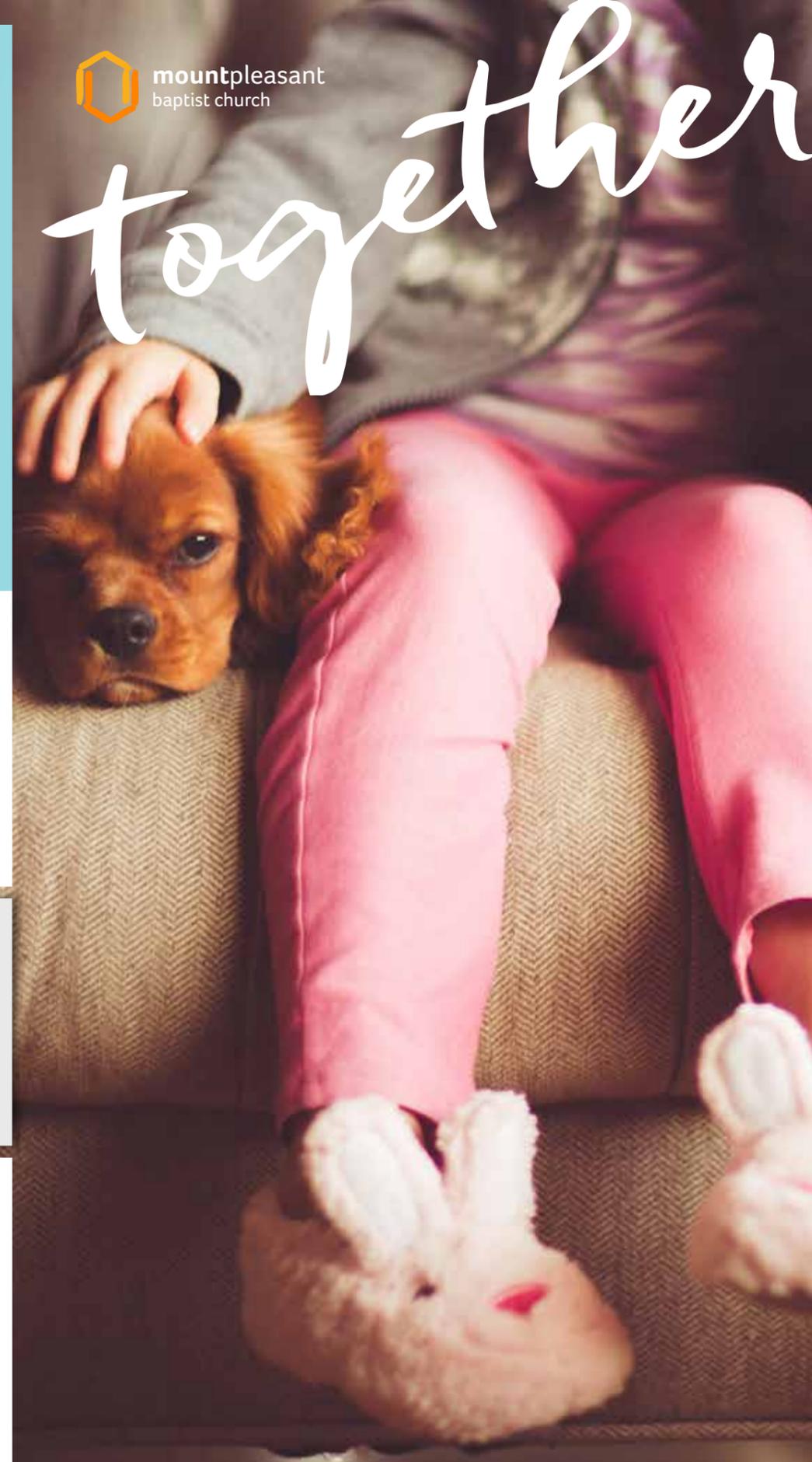
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together





Celebrating Christmas

CHRISTMAS EVE
5.00 PM & 6.30 PM [Booragoon]

CHRISTMAS DAY
8.45 AM [Booragoon]
9.00 AM [Coolbellup]

In Old Testament times the people of God eagerly anticipated the coming of the promised Messiah. No doubt for many, there was an expectation of the appearance of a powerful warrior king who would take control and bring much needed governmental reform and justice. No one expected the Messiah to appear in the form of a vulnerable human baby born into abject poverty with dubious parentage. What sort of a plan is that? Yet this was God's chosen way. Jesus was born into circumstances that were messy and unexpected, God in the flesh presented to the world as a baby in an animal food trough. And even today, God still has a way of making himself known to us through the messy, busy, unexpected circumstances of life. He is Emmanuel: God with us!

If you are visiting with us through this holiday season, we pray that you will have a safe and happy Christmas. But even more importantly, we pray that you will come to know personally the one who was born into the world on that first Christmas Day, God in the flesh, to bring you eternal life. — Nick Scott

Coolbellup Campus Update

We are grateful to God for enabling us to have a stall at the Twilight Markets in Coolbellup (Hargreaves Park) on 3 December. We will be focussing on the "three C's", namely, Coffee, Craft (for the kids) and Chat (telling people about the church). On 24 December we will be going around Coolbellup singing Christmas



Carols, wishing people a Merry Christmas and inviting them to the Christmas Service. This will be done in conjunction with "Cooby Cares" and the Cockburn City Council. What a great opportunity for ministry. As we reflect on 2016, we can assuredly say that God has been with us — to God be the glory! We look forward to an exciting 2017 in Coolbellup. — Peter Christofi

New Evening Service Time

Please note that from 1 January 2017 a new earlier time of 5.30pm for the Booragoon evening services will be trialed for the first part of the year.



Summer Sundays

Summer Sunday services for 2017 commence on 1 January and will extend through until 29 January. During this time there will be only one morning service at Booragoon at 8.45am and an evening service at 5.30pm. Our theme for Summer Sundays 2017 is *Transforming Love*. The morning services will be shorter, intergenerational services geared towards families, and will be based on a true story told over five weeks about a special dog called Lass, from the book "Lessons from a Sheep Dog" by Phillip Keller. The evening services will follow the same theme but with different interactive elements.

Women In The Word Together

Another successful year has seen this group of women grow, both numerically and spiritually. Together they have experienced great teaching from the books of Daniel, Hebrews and Thessalonians, along with deepening friendships and strong prayer support. All women are welcome in 2017 when studies will cover the books of Ruth, Esther and Mark, and a series on prayer.

Christmas Offering

The Christmas Offering will once again be sown outside of the Church as we donate to Baptist World Aid's Middle East Appeal which provides shelter, clean water, heating, warm clothes, education and child protection for refugees in the Middle East. Giving envelopes will be available from 18 December and at the Christmas services. If you require a tax receipt from BWA, please complete contact details on the envelope, even if you give a cash donation.

Mount Pleasant College – Christian Formation

Christian Formation short courses at Mount Pleasant will look different in 2017. There will be a mixture of events from which to choose: half-day seminar style presentations engaging keynote presenters; mid-week short courses deliberately focussed upon the most relevant topics; and Saturday morning sessions that will help participants identify and develop their gifts.

For those who wish to develop a deeper understanding of scripture, theology, and the principles of pastoral ministry, the College will offer Certificates in **Christian Ministry and Theology**. Classes will be held on Thursdays during the school terms and enrolments will be taken until the end of January 2017. More information is available from Peter Christofides or Mick Stringer.

Essence Movie Night

The 'Princess' themed night was a huge success as many women and girls came dressed to impress for a night of celebrating who they are in Christ – daughters of an almighty God, destined to become a queen, treasured, sacred and beautiful. The beauty parlour and photo booths were popular, and the movie 'A Little Princess' emphasised the message of hope and spoke the truth "that we are all princesses." \$250 was raised for YouthCare Chaplaincy to purchase resources for a grief and loss program run in a local primary school.



More details and registration (where required) for these events are available at the Info Point, through the Church Office, or online at www.mounties.org.au or www.facebook.com/mpbcperth

Celebration Service Café

WHEN: Sundays, 7.45-8.45am, 10.00-10.40am
WHERE: Booragoon Campus Café

Cooby Crowd Picnic

WHEN: Sunday 11 December, 12.00pm
WHERE: 3 Clements Place, Jandakot

All the Coolbellup congregation are invited to a fellowship picnic at the Masters' home. BYO picnic lunch for your family - coffee and tea provided. Bring your sneakers for a game of soccer or volleyball!

Christmas Services

Come and celebrate Jesus' birth with MPBC:

BOORAGOON: Christmas Eve Services – Saturday 24 December, 5.00pm & 6.30pm
Christmas Day Service – Sunday 25 Dec, 8.45am

COOLBELLUP: Christmas Day Service – Sunday 25 December, 9.00am

Summer Sundays – From 1 to 29 January there will only be one morning service at 8.45am each Sunday at Booragoon, and the regular 9.00am service at Coolbellup. Evening services will be held at 5.30pm but will be a little different from usual. For more information see the accompanying article and look out for the Summer Sundays flyer.

Community Ministries

Christmas Lunch

WHEN: Sunday 25 December, 12.30pm-3.00pm
WHERE: Booragoon Campus Function Room

We will once again host a Christmas Lunch for those who might otherwise be on their own. Bookings are essential via the Info Point or Church Office. No charge, donations welcome.

Men's PIE Night Special Event: The Fathering Project

WHEN: Morning of Saturday 18 February
WHERE: MPBC Booragoon Campus

The Fathering Project aims to inspire and allow fathers and father-figures to effectively engage with their kids and to make better Dads for the benefit of the children. Save the date and invite friends.

Singles Alive – Details of events for the singles group coordinated by Elsie and Neil Murray, including ones over the Christmas/ New Year period, are available at the Info Point and on the noticeboard.

Children & Families

MPK Leaders Meeting

WHEN: Sunday 29 January, 10.00am
WHERE: Booragoon Campus Room 10

Before the new school year starts, all MPK Volunteers (whether on roster or not for term one) are requested to attend a team meeting.

Youth

AMP Youth Summer Camp: Ethereal

WHEN: Sat 17 Dec 8.30am – Tue 20 Dec 3.00pm
WHERE: Camp Wattle Grove

Last-minute registrations being accepted, but no guarantee of camp t-shirt. Details and registration: www.mounties.org.au/ethereal

Ministry Holidays

MPK – Finishes on Sunday 11 Dec and recommences Sunday 5 Feb.

AMP Youth – Final youth night is Friday 9 December; Ethereal Camp runs 17-20 December and Youth will return on Friday 3 February.

Young Adults – Salt will hold a wind-up dinner on Wed 7 December and resume meetings in February.

Seniors Communion Lunch – In recess until Thursday 16 February.

Craft Connection – Christmas breakup on Wednesday 7 December; will resume Wednesday 1 February.

Tumble Tots – End of year parties are Wed 7 / Thu 8 December. Groups will resume 1 & 2 February.

Women in the Word Together – In recess December and January; resumes Tuesday 14 February.

Men's Bible Study – In recess December and January.

Call To Prayer – in recess December and January; meets back Tuesday 14 February at Booragoon Campus.

PIE Nights – In recess until February.

Marketplace98% – In recess December and January.

Flourish – In recess December and January.

A Month in the life of MPBC

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7.45am - Café open	Office closed	6.00pm - Prayer and Healing	9.15am - Craft Connection (concludes 7 Dec)	9.30am - Tumble Tots Playgroup (concludes 8 Dec)	7.30am - Prayer at Coolbellup	
8.45am - International/ESL Bible Study Group		6.00pm - Revival Prayer (weekly except 27 Dec & 3 Jan)	9.30am - Tumble Tots Playgroup (concludes 7 Dec)		6.30pm - AMP Youth (school years 7-12 – concludes 9 Dec)	
8.45am - Booragoon AM Service		7.30pm - Creative Ministries (December only)	10.00am - Coolbellup Ladies Bible Study			
9.00am - Coolbellup Service			7.30pm - Salt - Young Adults (concludes 7 Dec)			
10.30am - Booragoon AM Service (No 10.30am service in January)						
6.30pm - Booragoon PM Service (5.30pm from 1 January)						



GOT A QUESTION?

Email us: contact@mounties.org.au or phone the church office on 9329 1777.