

Welcome! We continue our Term 1 Sermon Series for 2020, 'Friend of God' - the Gospel of Luke

Dave Woolcott will preach on Luke 19:11-27, 'A Guest for Sinners' at the 8.30am, 10.30am and 6.30pm services.

At the 4pm Indonesian Service, GI Lyfine Bertha Kiolol will also preach on Luke 19.

We hope you enjoy your time of fellowship at MacChap today.

Looking Ahead

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Extraordinary Session (Elders Meeting)
Monday 7.30pm in the small Cunningham Hall.

Please Pray

Next
Sun
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Di Hockridge preaching at 8.30am, 10.30am and 6.30pm, on the Gospel of Luke, chapter 22.
Sabian Purnama is preaching at the 4.00pm Indonesian service, also on Luke chapter 22.



Who we are & whowewanttobe



We want to be a church that **imitates Christ**; a place where people can grow, where we glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

Like the first followers of Jesus we want to worship, learn, connect and reach out to others with God's love and truth. We want to be people like this individually and as a community.

If you want to know more about Jesus or know more about MacChap - please chat to someone, complete a "Connect Card" (found in the pews) or send us an email.

Contact Details and other info

📍 2 Herring Rd, Eastwood NSW, 2122 📞 9878 8048

🕒 Ministry Centre open Mon-Friday 9.30am-3.00pm

💰 Account Name: Macquarie Chapel Bank: Commonwealth, Eastwood.
BSB No: 062 161 Account No: 10189652

MacChap online  www.macchap.com.au

 Macquarie Chapel Community  YMAC  www.macchapchoir.com

You can also subscribe to our regular emails:

- Re:Mac email about news and events, plus this Sunday bulletin
- PrayerConnect email encouraging you to pray for the needs of those in our church and beyond (confidential list not published publicly)
- 10 Days of Prayer email at the start of each Series to encourage you to Praise God & pray about our church, the world and yourself

MacChap Staff

Rev. Dave Woolcott, Senior Minister dave@macchap.com.au

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Gunung Maston Hutauruk (Indonesian

Pastor) ✉ gunung@macchap.com.au

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Choir:

Chris Czerwinski ✉ choir@macchap.com.au

Woolway:

✉ cindy@macchap.com.au

(Details about the Staff's specific roles or about MacChap's Elders and Management Team can be found on the Leadership pages of our website)

AGM Postponed



At this point in time our Annual General Meeting, is postponed. Please keep your eye out for notifications of when this will occur.

The Growth Project

More progress has happened this week and metal roofing has now arrived!

Please continue to pray for good weather and efficiency of the workers to get the roof on as soon as possible.

Please also pray for God to reveal to us how we can use our improved facilities to touch our growing Ryde City community with God's love.



Please Pray for our Preachers

We are blessed to have a number of people who are passionate and gifted in Preaching. They had a very encouraging meeting last Tuesday evening. Please pray for Kara, Gunung, Lyfine, Diane and Dave as they prepare sermons for MacChap this month.



Call for National Prayer

Call for National Prayer for COVID-19 crisis.

We know as a church family we have been praying for some time now for all things connected within our communities and greater world to the Corona virus. This week an Australia wide official prayer initiative was launched by Christian leaders across the denominations. They ask us to unite daily in prayer until the crisis has been declared over. All Christians Australia-wide are asked to pray for our nation in response to the crisis.

Let us continue in prayer together for this need, knowing that we are united together as the Body of Christ as we bring our requests to God.





8.30am Order of Service

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Hymn 61: The Lord Is King!

Prayer of Adoration & Confession including Lord's Prayer

Bible Reading: Luke 19: 11 - 27

Hymn 523: Jesus, the Very Thought of You

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Hymn 521: Christian Do You Hear the Lord?

Sermon: "A Guest of Sinners"

Hymn 522: I Will Sing the Wondrous Story (Offering)

Benediction & Blessing

The Blessing

The Lord be with us as we bend
His blessings to receive;
His gift of peace on us descend
Before His courts we leave.

The Lord be with us as we walk
Along our homeward road;
In silent thought or friendly talk,
Our hearts be near to God.

8.30 Roster for the weeks ahead...

DUTY ELDER	WELCOMING	OFFERING STEWARDS	MORNING TEA HOSTS
March 22 Derek Collins	Rachel Mottau Sandra Leeson	Trish Bull Marg Mayger	Agnes Lee Laurel Dixon
March 29 Rachel Mottau	Jann Ferguson Betty O'Neill	Marg Whiteside Bruce Goudge	Allyson McNamara Sandra Leeson
April 5 Rema Gnanadickam	Trish Bull Margaret Mayger	Colin and Joy Clark	Julie and Hian Wan
April 10 Good Friday tba	tba	tba	tba

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art (is) in heaven,
hallowed be thy (your) name.

Thy (Your) Kingdom come,
thy (your) will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine (yours) is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

Dear MacChap Family!

This Sunday we need to do things a little differently to the way we usually would when we meet together as a church. We ask that you prayerfully consider the following in regards to this Sunday.

- If you are feeling unwell, please stay at home.
- If you are at risk (e.g. elderly members or immunocompromised people), please consider carefully the wisdom of attending church.
- We will be trialling 'live streaming' of the 10:30 and 6:30 services from the Big Hall. This might be a practice run for future weeks due to further restrictions to groups meeting together. Please consider staying at home if you are able to log into the 'live stream', especially if you have kids - due to the potential of cross-contamination between young and old. MacKids will not be running as normal, however will be watching a video (while sitting in their own 1.5m² space!).
- If you are feeling healthy, and are as strong as an ox, and have no capability or desire to 'live stream', then we look forward to seeing you in person.

There is a Facebook group that you can join if you haven't yet. It may be helpful if you would like to be aware of updates more often than Re:Mac might provide. It is also a place where you can link into some community if you are isolated at this time. A place to chat, pray, encourage, etc.

If you are isolated and want help with shopping or other needs, please let us know at the Ministry Centre. Also, if you would like to volunteer to help others at this time, then please let us know.

Although these are different times, they are times that are full of opportunities to love and support each other well. Take time each day to connect with those who might be isolated. Emails, texts and messages are good but this is a great time to pick up the phone so that we can hear each other's voices!

"Let us not give up meeting together... but let us encourage each other..."
Hebrews 10:25

Pastor Dave

Dave's Download #4



I am a dreamer. I remember sitting through many sermons in church as a kid, imagining all sorts of things. I would imagine gun battles raging in and around the pipe organ and across the sanctuary. I had a creative mind!

As I have grown I have learnt that if I only sit and imagine what life might be like, I might miss making it a reality. I can become lost in my own world and fail to connect with the real world, and most importantly, the relationships that await me.

Some people are the opposite. I remember talking to a gentleman when I worked at Gulargambone. We were talking about a farming family who were hard workers. The gentleman said to me, "It is good to work hard, but every now and again you need to put your head up, wipe the sweat from your forehead, and check that you are going in the right direction."

The danger of being all action is that we can become lost in the work and forget the bigger picture. I remember some farming families where the men would only come into town once in 6 months. They practiced social distancing! We can become so intent on our work that relationships are lost.

Jesus showed a balanced approach. In Luke 18:31-33 Jesus tells the 12 disciples for a third time what will happen to him. He has looked up to see where he is going. He is heading to the hard work of his trial and the cross, yet he takes time out to care for the disciples. He wants them to know the hard truth about his death and to have the opportunity to dream about a resurrection.

Then, in verses 35-43 we see that Jesus, despite his mission to get to his cross, remembers his big purpose in the everyday. Jesus has a vision for his own life (& death), and yet has time for the vision of a blind man. When the beggar calls out to him for mercy, Jesus, in the middle of his own journey to the cross, asks the man a question. Jesus does not look at him as a blind man and assume what he wants. Instead Jesus sees him as a person. He asks him a simple, yet profound question.

"What do you want me to do for you?" That is a dreaming question!

What drives Jesus' walk towards the cross is love. It is the reason for his very hard work.

What drives Jesus' question to the beggar is love. It is the reason why he stops and dreams with a blind man.

Will you find this type of balance this week? Will you keep in mind the big picture, while stopping to make the most of the small stuff. Both are key. Both are important. Both give us life. Both are a part of being whole-hearted.

Dave

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If you are not yet a subscriber and would like to receive MacChap's weekly Re:Mac news email which arrives Fridays, and/or Dave's Download on Wednesdays, please contact the office via email and we will add you to the list. Contact details are in the bulletin on page 2.

(PTO for sign-up details.)

There is a season.

Courage is easy to identify – right? Courage faces a crisis with a spirit that is ready to defy. Courage stands up in the face of fear. Courage never takes a backwards step. Courage, in short, is ready to stand your ground and fight. Right?

During WW1 many generals believed that courage would win the day. In spite of the odds, in spite of the dangers and in spite of the concerns generals ordered men to advance with courage. The troops had courage and they were willing to fight to the end. There was however one problem. Advancing in the face of machine gun fire was not courageous. It was foolish!

Calling on the troops to exhibit courage was absurd when the enemy was overwhelming. Sometimes the most courageous call is not to advance, but to retreat. Courage is no substitute for wisdom.

Today the world faces its greatest health crisis in 100 years. Doctors, pandemic researchers, immunologists, health officials and the World Health Organisation are unanimously shouting that today the most courageously wise thing to do is to retreat. They are warning us that for our own sake, for the sake of the most vulnerable and for the sake of the health system we need to socially isolate as comprehensively as possible.

Every country that has had a major outbreak of Covid-19 is now listening. However, countries which still have a small number of cases are much slower to call a general retreat. Some still want to go to the footy for one last week. Some think it can't happen to me. Some fear the economic cost of retreat. Some fear that retreat will make us look weak. Some believe that the herd will be stronger if we advance and accept the casualties. Some are so committed to victory that the thought of retreat is unimaginable.

I am neither a general or a scientist. I'm not even sure that I am very courageous. In the face of the reality of the medical and economic crisis we are facing, I too am afraid. However, I am convinced that life has seasons. Humility demands that I accept the wisdom of the scholar and the scientist and humbly bow before my Maker, dependent on his mercy and grace.

This season too will pass. We are not helpless. God has given us minds to think and reason to follow.

Our refuge is prayer.

To retreat today is not to give up, but to ready ourselves for tomorrow's advance.

*There is a time for everything and season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to up root,
a time to kill and a time to heal, time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up, a time to tear down and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.*

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8.

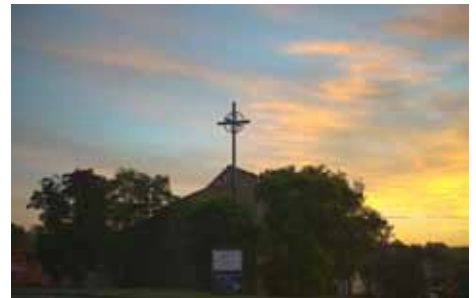


WORD4Life by Richard Quadrio is back!

If you are not yet a subscriber to Richard’s blogs, and would like to subscribe to them, follow the link below. You could sign in with a Google account (gmail address and password required), or simply search (and optionally bookmark) the following web address:

www.wordquadlife.blogspot.com

MacChap’s Kindness Help Bank



In response to our restricted lifestyles currently, MacChap has created a Kindness Help Bank, to match needs with those willing and able to assist.

There have already been a number of deposits into the bank, and withdrawalls. MacChap and individual members are working on gradually building emergency supplies to help those in need. You may like to be a part of this.

Please see the list below, and if you haven’t already signed up through our new closed Facebook Group (for church attendees only), or emailed the office, you can respond by returning the form below into the Connect Box or offering containers which will be available at each service this weekend. See below for how you could help, or be helped.



MacChap Kindness Help Bank

*Do you need help during this time?.....
We have toilet roll supplies coming!.....
Do you need other shopping or urgent supplies?

*Would you like to help others at this time?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping? | <input type="checkbox"/> Delivering Urgent supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mowing/Gardening? | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone calls? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer? | <input type="checkbox"/> Posting mail? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other..... | |

Name:.....Service:.....

PH:.....EMAIL:.....