



WINTER 2015



PAPSDA

Papatoetoe Seventh-day Adventist Community Church

NEWS

FROM THE  
PEWS



# CONTENTS.

<b>PAGE 4</b>	<b>FEATURE  </b> A Vanuatu Experience
<b>PAGE 6</b>	<b>VOX POP  </b> If You Could Time-Travel, Who Would You Meet?
<b>PAGE 8</b>	<b>FEATURE  </b> The Spiritual Toll of Constant Entertainment
<b>PAGE 10</b>	<b>SNAPSHOTS  </b> From the Past Few Months
<b>PAGE 12</b>	<b>MEET SOME PAPSDA-ITES  </b> The Blyde Family
<b>PAGE 14</b>	<b>MINI REPORTS  </b> From the Year So Far
<b>PAGE 16</b>	<b>FEATURE  </b> Project Cambodia Trip
<b>PAGE 18</b>	<b>FAMILY FEATURE  </b> The Faith Box
<b>PAGE 20</b>	<b>KIDZONE  </b> News & Activities
<b>PAGE 22</b>	<b>OUT AND ABOUT  </b> Surf Lifegroup Trip
<b>PAGE 24</b>	<b>COOK 30  </b> Recipe From Jeremy's Brand New Book
<b>PAGE 26</b>	<b>FEATURE  </b> Welcome Baby Ministry
<b>PAGE 28</b>	<b>360 NEWS  </b> From Our Youth Ministry Team
<b>PAGE 30</b>	<b>PAPSDA NEWS  </b> Crime2Christ Launch
<b>PAGE 32</b>	<b>MEET A LIFEGROUP  </b> Papsda's Sabbath Morning Library Group
<b>PAGE 34</b>	<b>SOUL FOOD  </b> Your Word For Today

**Welcome to our WINTER Edition** of News from the Pews. If you are a visitor to Papsda, it's great to have you here and reading our magazine! We hope you enjoy taking a look at some of the things that have happened in 2015 so far. We welcome any contributions, from photos to thoughts, to pieces that have inspired you. This is your magazine Papsda, and we totally want to keep it that way.  
Got some feedback? We'd love some! E-mail the Editor - [katie@papsda.co.nz](mailto:katie@papsda.co.nz)

## FREE

Every human heart desires freedom. Born into a fractured world, we feel the weight of that fracture from very early on. And we fight to find escape from it. The reason I am driven or lazy; the reason I pursue relationships or hide from relationships the reason I'm honest or I'm a liar is that I am searching for freedom from the things that haunt me, from that gnawing inside of me; from the things that weigh me down, from that inner turmoil. We're all seeking freedom. We all want it.

It starts early, with this kind of thinking:

"I can't wait for high school."

"I can't wait 'til I can drive."

"I can't wait 'til I get a good job, a wife, a family, a bigger house, a retirement package..."

We believe that freedom from our brokenness is somewhere in front of us in the form of our next relationship, possession or circumstance. But when we reach the "next thing," we find there is some other thing after it just waiting to be pursued. In our self-seeking freedom worship, we believe that the "next thing" on our happiness list will bring us wholeness.

That's utter narcissism. And there's no freedom in it.

We long for freedom and, left to our own devices, we search for it only in wrong places. But we are not wrong to long for it. The claim of Christ is, "I've called you to it. I've called you to freedom." Galatians 5:13 says, "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

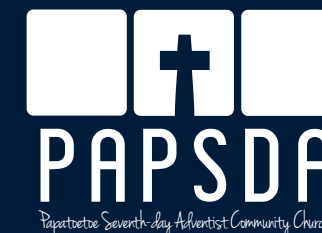
We are all after freedom, and that freedom is found in Christ. But that freedom has not been given to us so that it might terminate on us. Rather, as Paul notes, the true way to freedom is to give ourselves away.

Paul points us to the words of Jesus: "For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself'" (Gal. 5:14).

We are to look at our neighbour and recognize that they deserve to be treated with the same human dignity that we are. They're worthy of our service, worthy of our love. But our selfishness causes us to seek our own freedom on our own terms, without regard to our neighbours' well-being. We think pursuing our own happiness will set us free.

True freedom comes when we follow the example of Christ to empty ourselves in service to others. That kind of freedom is the only logical response to the knowledge that we have been set free from the penalty of our sin. It causes us to look outward to the needs of others instead of inward because our greatest need has been met. That gnawing inside of us has been quelled. That inner turmoil has been laid to rest. We turn from worship of our own needs to worship of God, and the scales fall from our eyes. We see the needs of others in a new and urgent light.

- Norman Hurlow



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Adventist Community Church

“ A dog will bark  
if he sees his master  
attacked, and I should  
be a cowardly wretch  
if I could see God's  
truth assailed and  
stood by silent  
- John Calvin ”



# A VANUATU EXPERIENCE

*Virginia Pycroft, a former Papsda-ite turned ADRA field advisor for the South Pacific, writes from Suva and relays her experience of the Vanuatu disaster.*



Little did I know four years ago when I left Auckland, my home of 15 years, to pursue a career in International Development, that I would have the opportunity to board a New Zealand defence force Hercules plane bound for Port Vila. Usually I am based in Suva as a field advisor for ADRA South Pacific. As part of ADRA's Pacific ERT (Emergency Response Team), I received a phone call on Monday morning 16 March that I was to go to Port Vila to assist in ADRA's response to Tropical Cyclone Pam. I was to go via New Zealand to pick up some ERT (Emergency Response Team) gear, about 50 kgs, then fly on a NZ military plane to Port Vila. Less than 12 hours later I was in a taxi to Suva airport to catch a flight bound for Auckland.

I spent the night at the army barracks at Whenuapai and was picked up at 5.15am for a 7am departure. Along with the other 20 or so civilians, including people from other NGOs such as Red Cross and Caritas and from various media outlets including Sky UK, I donned air plugs and pulled on a jacket as we settled into the seats around the side of the plane. Piles of cargo within touching distance and the workings of a plane usually covered by panelling now visible made for a flight experience quite different from any other that I have had to date. Thoughtfully we were provided with a paper bag lunch consisting of sandwiches, water and fruit and crackers.

Five hours later I finally made it to the ADRA office where the chaos began. The local ADRA country team is overwhelmed with the volume of work that comes with responding to a disaster of this magnitude. During these types of crises there are several funding opportunities that often become available. Each ERT member has a specific role, including programs, planning, communications and my role - finance. I helped with budgets and planning. This freed up the local staff to take care of the evacuation centres and attend the many coordination meetings with the government and other NGOs. It was a busy time - working seven days a week for the first three weeks. We finally had the Saturday of Easter off. Port Vila was lucky enough to have water and we were working on generator power for the first week or so. The biggest celebration was when wifi came back on - rescuing us from terribly slow 3G data!

There were seven international team members predominantly from Australia and New Zealand. We were joined by two members from the Canadian NGO, Global Medic, who had supplied additional hygiene kits and household water filters. As a larger group, ADRA Vanuatu began working to ensure the evacuation centres were catered for in terms of food and privacy for ablution blocks. Once the evacuation centres were closed, ADRA distributed tarpaulins: both ADRA funded ones and tarps on behalf of Red Cross who used the ADRA distribution networks (trucks and volunteers). In conjunction with World Vision who supplied the NOMAD (a water purification unit that processes up to 100L per day) and the a German NGO, Arche noVa, who supplied sky juice filters, ADRA volunteers worked to ensure several communities on Efate had purified drinking water.

Then the focus shifted to another island - Ambrym - specifically South East Ambrym. ADRA provided 10L water containers,

tarpaulins, shelter kits, household water filters, hygiene kits and repaired water system on Ambrym. They will also provide emergency toilets on the island. As part of the national logistics organisation the Global Medic hygiene kits and filters were flown by the Australian defence force in Black Hawk helicopters to Ambrym. This meant a 5am start on a Sunday to assist the loading. Seeing the three Black Hawks up close was another interesting military experience.

I was in a taxi on the way to meet up with some other team members. The taxi driver, in making conversation asked where I worked. After I told him, ADRA, he knew immediately who I was talking about. This was because just two days earlier an ADRA team had distributed tarpaulins to his house that had been affected by the cyclone. He expressed gratitude at ADRA coming to help his family. As we talked, his fears for housing and feeding his family both in Port Vila and on another island, became evident. This man, and people like him, gave purpose to the long hours and stress experienced over the previous two weeks.

When responding to a disaster it is essential that each NGO works with the government priorities. There are many coordination meetings. ADRA Vanuatu has worked directly with seven other NGOs during this response. It is being part of the wider national program that provides ADRA with funding opportunities from other sources such as the UN and New Zealand government and allows it to help even more people. ADRA is well-respected within the NGO community in Vanuatu due its ongoing development work and continues to work for the best solutions for the good of the people.

The Nepal earthquake is the latest disaster to hit our screens. Reminding some of us perhaps of when an earthquake of similar magnitude hit closer to home in Christchurch. As I write this, Simon Lewis is heading to Nepal to assist ADRA in its response, and many agencies are advertising for funds, ADRA included. When your heart wrenches from the TV and social media images of people without homes and simple basics like food and water, where people are distraught over loved ones not all accounted for, many are moved to donate.

As a community of believers we are encouraged to serve others. That can look different for each person, sometimes within our own family, neighbourhood or community. Over the years some have joined trips through Papsda like those of 360 service and those to South Africa, Solomon Islands, and Cambodia. Sometimes it is participating, others times it is through prayer or giving. I have been blessed with the opportunity to work for ADRA, the humanitarian arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As such it does not discriminate based on religion, race or gender in its work. It is in this 'no-strings' way of providing for people's needs that ADRA demonstrates practically God's love to those it helps.

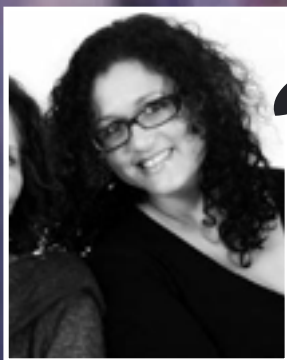
If you are interested in donating to Nepal, Vanuatu, or any other disaster or to find out more about longer term development projects visit the ADRA New Zealand website [www.adra.org.nz](http://www.adra.org.nz) or call 0800 499 911





# VOX POP

If you could travel back in time and meet one person, who would it be and what would you ask them?



**Liesl Holtzhauzen**

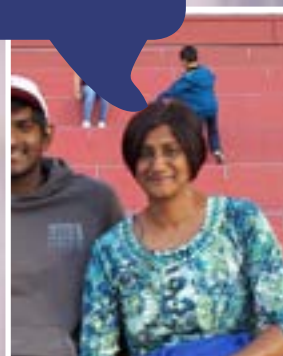
Nelson Mandela - I would ask him what gave him the inner strength to overcome the human inclination to avenge his oppressors and to show the kind of forgiveness he did.

**Lorraine Covenden**

I would love to meet Abigail, wife of Nabal. She had brains as well as beauty. Questions I would ask her are: Added to her charm and wisdom was that of piety. Living in the time when women were seen as less significant than men, where were you educated and who was the greatest influence in your life?

**Helen Carter**

If I could travel back in time I'd go to two places, 1) Queen Esther - what a woman?! Stunningly beautiful with nerves of steel. I'd love to know the detail of the court room scene and dinners with the King and Hayman really played out. 2) British aristocracy fascinates me - I would travel to the 1800's, hang out with Jane Austen and spend all day getting ready for dinner!



**Robyn Greenfield**

Abigail fascinates me. Described in 1 Samuel 25 as a beautiful and intelligent woman who was married to the wealthy fool Nabal, Abigail in a very short time managed to organise an impressive array of food to feed King David's hungry army and to appease the furious King by her clever use of words.

Abigail, where and how did you hone your effective organisational ability? And Abigail, your speech to King David is a monumental masterpiece. Wherever did you learn to employ such sound psychological principles that touched David's heart and melted his fury?



**Liz Hurlow**

Mary, the mother of Jesus. Now that I have my own son, I would love to know what it was like for her raising the Messiah, also knowing he would die for her. And how she and Joseph parented him. I would love to hear stories from Jesus' childhood.



**Sel Seluone**

Abraham Lincoln. My question - 'Mr President, where would you have me serve?'

**Daniela White**

If I was to travel back in time I would like to meet Esther, because she was such a brave person leading all the Jewish people. What I would ask her is, "How did you feel when you had to confront the king about the your people; and also how did it feel when you were chosen as queen?"



**Simon Lewis**

Bible? A question for Jacob: "describe the fitness regime to allow you to wrestle with an angel for a night."

History? A question for Napoleon: why did you not send more French explorers/colonisers to Australia or New Zealand? Science? A question for God: what would be the best way to predict earthquakes?



**Andrew Schwamm**

I would have loved to meet Fiona earlier but since God's timing is perfect I will go further into history and say Daniel.

I am inspired by his intelligence, influence and faith. How could he have been so influential with so many kings and in different kingdoms? Yet he had courage when not all kings believed in God or respected Daniel's advice.

Why did he spare the lives of the other magicians? How did he discharge his duties when he didn't respect the king? How did he grow his faith to be so strong?

Was it hard writing the book of end time events? I think it would be a long and fascinating conversation!



“ I believe in Christ like I believe in the sun. Not because I can see it, but by it, I can see everything else. -C.S. Lewis ”

## THE SPIRITUAL TOLL OF CONSTANT ENTERTAINMENT

### *How has binge-watching culture affected our relationship with God?*

In my ongoing Jesus vs. Netflix battle, it seems like Netflix is winning my time and attention. Ironically, when television arrived back in the 1950's, a lot of respected pastors dramatically called it the Devil's Box. Yet, 60 years later a study conducted by the Barna Group proved that Christians who practice their faith watch more TV than non-Christians. Personally, I love to be entertained. I watch anything and everything. I love the news, stupid videos on YouTube, three hours of ESPN and Facebook. I love romantic comedies, superhero movies, sci-fi epics and artsy independent cinema (even when it seems to make no sense whatsoever).

I can spend a full hour browsing through the Netflix gallery just to see what's available. I can watch full seasons of a show in a matter of days (even with two kids, a wife and a full-time job to maintain). There have even been times I've started a show, not really liked the beginning, but kept watching, as if to force myself to get into it—just so I could have another show to watch and be entertained by. If I would invest that much effort into my time with God, my face would probably radiate with the manifest glory from heaven. (Or, at the very least, I would have a couple more Bible verses memorised.) Netflix seems to be winning the battle. And I feel like I'm not alone.

#### **Our Entertainment Addiction**

I know people who have changed their diets completely based on a Netflix documentary on food. I know others who have taken days off from work so they could finish season five of Breaking Bad (worth it)! And I know, for sure, that if I am having trouble relating to a new person in church, all I have to do is start talking about what I am currently watching on Netflix, and like a miracle of human connectivity, BOOM! We are instantly best friends forever.

So how does Jesus compete against all the noise and the distraction? How are we able to turn down the entertainment in order to turn up the awe and the hunger? I think we're desperate to be inspired. We want out of our consuming, selfish, all-about-me prisons, so we wander off in entertainment looking for a purpose. Our real-life stories are lost in the dullness of everyday routine. Our religion has become mundane and easy to figure out. So our hearts are in a legitimate search for the story. It's why we turn to Netflix, the Internet or the movie theatre.

#### **Jesus the Entertainer**

Yes, Jesus is Saviour, Servant, King, Lion, God, Lord, but He was also a masterful storyteller. He communicated deep revelations

by turning them into profoundly compelling stories about wandering sheep, ungrateful sons and bad farming. Not only was He a genius with His words, He was also creative with His miracles. He was challenging to the establishment. He was provocative with His decisions. And it was impossible to fit Him into a box. He is literally untamable, radically spontaneous and comfortable with making us uncomfortable. He is far and away the greatest movie, story, mystery, drama, comedy, thriller that ever was. And it's time we tune in.

The story of Jesus could be our own story. It was designed to be our story. So we remain hungry for it.

In his glorious book “Dangerous Wonder”, Mike Yaconelli wrote: “I want a lifetime of holy moments. Every day I want to be in dangerous proximity to Jesus. I long for a life that explodes with meaning and is filled with adventure, wonder, risk and danger. I long for a faith that is gloriously treacherous. I want to be with Jesus, not knowing whether to cry or laugh.”

Yes, it's great to watch movies; it's just better to live a life that could become one. It's OK to be content consumers. It's just better to be content creators who become the influencers to a broken generation. There is nothing wrong with amusement, but we were created for something more than entertainment. Our lives weren't meant to be spent simply watching others' stories. The story of Jesus could be our own story. It was designed to be our story. So we remain hungry for it. We risk losing the wonder of the Good News by reducing it to a set of suggestions for ethical living. And while slumbering in the comforts of Western-Christianity, we often forget that the Scriptures are dangerous and mysterious—that the Kingdom of God is full of drama and intrigue. That it's the real life: raw, unedited and weirdly perfect.

#### **What Really Competes for Our Time?**

In “The Practice of the Presence of God”, Brother Lawrence wrote: “But this King, filled with goodness and mercy, far from chastising me, lovingly embraces me, makes me eat at His table, serves me with His own hands, gives me the keys of His treasures and treats me as His favourite. He talks with me and is delighted with me in a thousand ways and He forgives me and relieves me of my bad habits without talking about them. There is a mystery to be discovered. An adventure to be lived. His presence is truly exciting.”

Jesus is not contained inside our religious efforts. He is too big, and too wise, and too much of a friend of sinners to be limited by that. He won't stop being who He is because of the things you decided to watch, or do, or say. But there is a mystery to be discovered. An adventure to be lived. His presence is truly exciting (and available at all times).

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# SNAPSHOTS 2015



# MEET

## the Blyde family

### NEW PAPSDA-ITES



Braden & Karen Blyde jetted into Auckland in April to start their new life in New Zealand. We give them a huge Papsda welcome and find out a bit more about their family!

**Welcome Blyde family! Tell us who makes up your family unit?**  
Our little family is made up of Braden, Karen, Ryan our talkative three-year-old, and Eamon our chubby-cheeked one-year-old.

**Where are you from / originally from / where have you lived over the past few years?**  
While we are both Kiwi's by birth (Braden from Auckland, Karen from Christchurch), we are also proud Australians and grew up together in New South Wales. Other than a short stint in Adelaide, South Australia, we've spent most of our lives around Cooranbong.

**What brings you to Auckland? How long have you been here?**  
Braden has worked for ADRA in Australia for about six years and an opportunity came up to help grow the amazing work that ADRA

New Zealand is doing with the support of Kiwis. We were up for a bit of an adventure, so while moving away from family is never easy we decided to jump across the ditch. We arrived in New Zealand just after Easter.

**What are you most missing about home?**  
Having family (otherwise known as baby sitters) so close at hand! The kids had both sets of grandparents living less than 10 minutes away.

**What strikes you most about NZ? Any major differences or is it just a small Australia?**  
We were a little surprised by the petrol station attendants filling up the car, and the lack of rubbish bins on the street just doesn't seem right! But seriously, it is stunningly beautiful and the people are super friendly.

**What are your occupations/backgrounds?**  
Braden is a former high school English teacher that has specialised in Marketing and Communications. Karen is a full-time mum at the moment, but is a trained Diversional Therapist.

**We hear you have recently been unpacking your container of possessions! What are some of the things you've missed the most? Or realised you haven't missed!?**  
Our bikes! Well, Braden and Ryan have at least. Following the Queenstown Classic ADRA fundraiser Braden was without a bike for four weeks, and without his mountain bike for three weeks before that - absolute torture! We're also very relieved to have the removalists find a lost box containing the springs and matt for the trampoline.

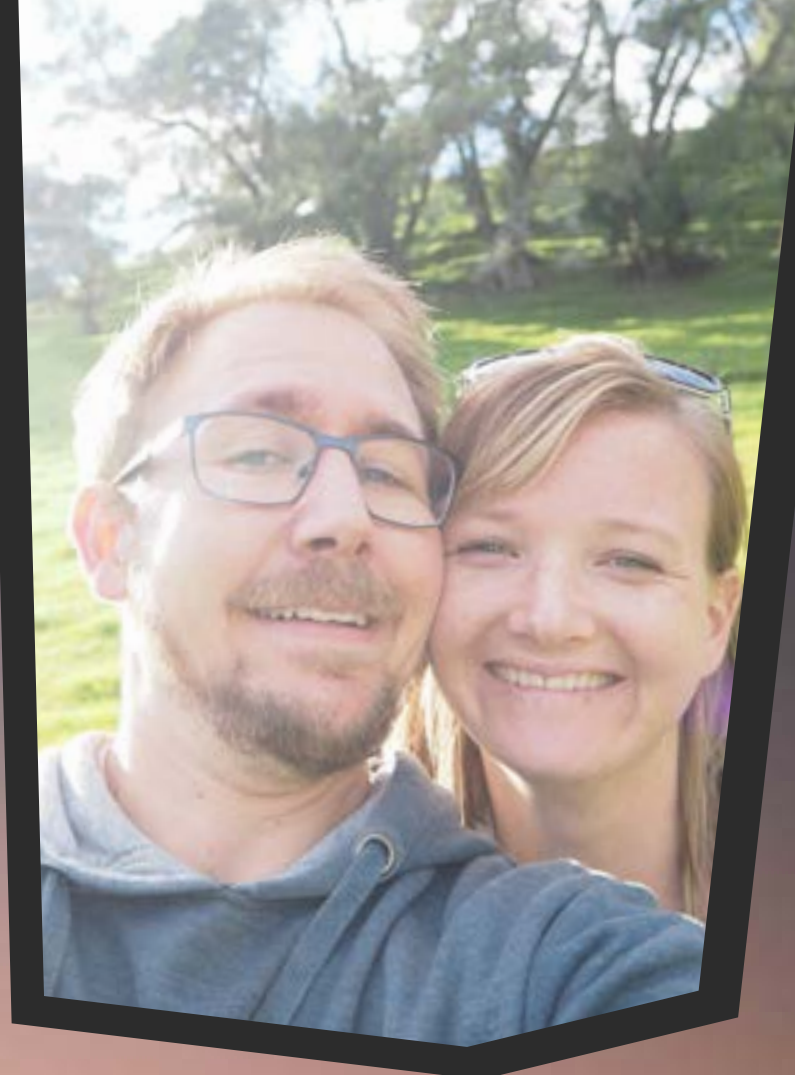
**How long have you been attending Papsda? What have you enjoyed about it?**  
We came as visitors the first Sabbath after we arrived. Our intentions to 'church shop' haven't eventuated - we haven't felt the need to. We came only knowing the Lewis Family and Keira, but have felt very welcomed by everyone.

**What is your favourite or latest discovery about God?**  
**Braden** - He still performs miracles! My dad had a critical health scare just days after we accepted the offer to move to New Zealand. It threw up a lot of questions and doubts, but God came through. The doctors were left without explanation to his recovery.  
**Karen** - Maybe it's because I have become used to simplifying concepts for a little one but I love that with God, when it comes down to it, **it is such a simple concept - He loves us, He died for us, and all we have to do is believe.**

**If you could travel back in time, what year would you travel to and why?**  
**Braden** - Somewhere in the sixties - beat poets, rock'n'roll and the beginnings of mountain biking as a sport.  
**Karen** - I would have loved to witness a significant world event like the 1969 moon landing or the end of WW2 in 1945. There is just something about the unity and solidarity that a significant events can bring. I'm a bit sentimental.

**Best piece of parenting advice you've ever received?**  
The best advice we were given was to politely listen to all the advice and then do what works for you and your child.

**Something we might not know about you?**  
We are both left handed, so it will be interesting to see what the boys end up being!





# MINI REPORTS

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015? READ ALL ABOUT 'EM!

## HEATHER-DAWN SMALL

On April 11, Papsda was proud to host guest speaker Heather-Dawn Small, the Director of Women's Ministries at the General Conference (the governing body of the SDA church worldwide). Heather-Dawn was dynamic and real as she delivered a powerful message on servanthood. Women from around the North New Zealand Conference joined us for a day of equipping, empowering and inspiring women to participate in ministry in their context.

## EASTER PRAISE - 'CROSSFIT'

Easter Praise this year focussed on where the "Cross fits." We celebrated through music and creative arts how the cross fits everybody, everywhere at any time. We discovered that the resurrection gave the cross power to transform, and heal. The



house was full with our regular attenders and many invited guests as we responded to this powerful message in worship.

## 60's+ LUNCH

On 23 April, three car loads of adventurous 60's plus took a scenic drive down the coastline to Kaiaua. After a filling and delicious lunch at the local fish and chip café they ventured on toward Pokeno for the best ice-cream in the region! It was a great day had by all. Join us on our next adventure.



## PLAYGROUP UPDATE & CHANGES

Playgroup is now into the second term for 2015, and we have had some exciting experiences already. Last term's theme was all about water and we ended with a trip to Kelly Tarltons which was awesome! I haven't been there for a very long time and the place is definitely worth a visit! This term is all about the seasons, Autumn and Winter. We have made sun catchers, leaf people, chocolate treat making for Mother's Day and leaf fishing! I have been facilitating the music and movement

time and this is probably the most scariest for me, as I cannot move (a.k.a dance) and sing or play an instrument. So quite the challenge but luckily my playgroup kids are not judgemental and we have lots of fun 'moving' to the music as we see fit. And now, after a few sessions, I am not sure who has more fun, me or the children?

At the moment, playgroup is a lot smaller than when I attended with my children many years ago, but Term 3 is when I plan to do a big push in advertising and let our neighbourhood know about us. We regularly have about 20 children attend, which is a lovely number but I am sure there is potential for more, so if any of you advertising people have any bright ideas just let me know!

I also must mention Playgroup's most loyal 'employee of the decade', Nise. Nise has been attending playgroup for many years and still going strong today. Her loyalty and friendly manner is to be commended and she is a great asset to playgroup - thank you Nise for all you do!

If you think this sounds cool, why don't you come down on Wednesday morning at 9am and see what happens. Even better- why don't you volunteer an hour or two and come and help out? You could even come down, have a cuppa and chat with the parents and caregivers - it's pretty easy.

Make sure you include playgroup in your prayers, it's an awesome service to the community. - Debbie Marshall

**CAP UPDATE** Isaiah 58 in action! Some exciting things have happened in CAP the past few months! We did a church-wide launch of the ministry; we held a volunteers meeting in which we had a strong group of people turn up with some great ideas of how to build this ministry; and a CAP Money training course in which eight Papsda people came to be trained. We will be running numerous CAP money courses this year for people both in the church and in the community! So far we have seen four families begin their journey to become debt-free and have eleven more booked for the upcoming weeks. But even more exciting is that God's love is being shared with each of these families and He is using the Papsda community to do it. Thanks Papsda for all your support.

## 360 BASKETBALL

This year's Queens Birthday NNZC Basketball Tournament was awesome! There were seven teams playing under the Papsda 360 banner. Four women's teams, two mens and a mixed team. Leading up to the tournament we had up to 70 people turning up for training every Saturday night. There's nothing like the sound of bouncing basketballs, squeaking sneakers, sweaty people and the smell of deep heat to help you feel you are part of the team. Finally competition time was upon us! After a lively and thought-provoking rally taken by 360 Youth, we all jumped into vehicles and headed over to the North Shore. Our 360 teams played their hearts out over the next two days of competition and I was very proud of their results. A Gold medal for 360 Womens A and B teams, and a semi-finalist placing for our Mens B Team. We need a trophy cabinet! A big thank-you to our supporters, players, captains, coaches and leaders. - Karl Saifoloi

**TEEN CAMP** Teen camp this year was the best one I've been to yet. The speaker and his praise and worship team came all the way from Australia for our camp, and they didn't let us down. The praise and worship was so good. This along with the activities we did, such as wake boarding and biscuiting, or going on an 'amazing race'. The leaders like Lu-Ellen and Bill, and of course the teens that came made for such a great time and such great memories. Bring on 2016 Teen Camp! Wooo! - Mikayla Davidson

## EQUIP (Lessons) for Life Courses | Train One, Influence More, Impact Many

At Papsda we value spiritual and personal growth. As a result we offer a series of courses that will equip you for Life. This year the courses will run on a Sabbath morning or during the week. Some courses that may run this year: HiStory (basic beliefs), Bible through New Eyes (Inductive study), CAP Money, Toolbox Parenting Courses, Contagious Christian, Relationship Course, Life Group Leader training. Keep an eye out for dates and times of EQUIP courses. For more information contact Brigitte Bagg through the church office on 278-7786 or email [brigitte@papsda.co.nz](mailto:brigitte@papsda.co.nz).

**BOOTCAMP FUNDRAISER** Among a number of ingenious fundraising events for the Project Cambodia trip, the Papsda Bootcamp that ran for just a single session in summer managed to raise over \$1,500! Organised by Annelise Greenfield and run by KMS Fitness, it wasn't just the crazy exercise fanatics that made it a fabulous event. Thank you everyone for your support and willingness to do shuttle runs for a good cause!

## KIDS CHURCH

How big is our God? He's HUGE. Where does He live? He lives UP THERE in heaven and DOWN HERE in your hearts. In a child's mind, those concepts can be hard to conceive but Papsda's children creatively demonstrated God's complexity in child-like simplicity. Toddlers from The Farmyard through to pre-teens in Extreme came together to sing, present, pray and talk about how the God of the universe is their personal friend who loves them. Melissa Mataio, Tracey Ryan and Karl Saifoloi also spoke about the importance of investing into the lives of our children, and sticking with them in their faith journey no matter what. Prayer cards with the name of each child at Papsda were distributed to the congregation, with a promise to pray for that child all year.



NEWS WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?  
TELL US! E-MAIL [KATIE@PAPSDA.CO.NZ](mailto:katie@papsda.co.nz)





# CAMBODIA

news from the papsda-on-a-mission trip

## THE PRESCHOOL...

opened for classes two weeks after we left with 53 kids aged 3-5 and two sessions running each day. Papsda paid for their little uniforms... all \$7 worth! The teacher is young and inexperienced but she is doing so well and is so enthusiastic to learn. These kids and their families have hope of a better future. Dos Onn, (the man that Papsda employed to lead the work in the village) assures me in his regular emails how grateful they are to Papsda.

Having a Community Preschool is very much a dream come true for this little village. They've never seen anything like it and they almost can't understand why. Things like this don't happen in their village. Before we arrived, one of the village men asked Dos Onn, WHY people would come across the ocean and do this in their village. He told them that God sent the people from New Zealand. The man then asked, where did the money come from to build a building this beautiful? Dos Onn told him, "God gave them the money." We know that it's true!

## THE JOURNEY.

We can't change the whole world but we can make a big difference for some. With that in mind, Papsda sent a second team of eighteen volunteers, on a second trip, to our little adopted Cambodian village.

When it comes to international serving, our mission has always been to create opportunity for people to help themselves - to get out of poverty and to raise health and happy children. Relatively speaking we have so much in this country, which means that we have so much to share. There was a real palpable sense of hope in our village this time. They couldn't believe that we'd come back and were committed to helping them. You could feel the difference.

The villagers were so much better prepared and on board this time. Last time it was all so unknown to them. They now know what it means to have toilets and clean water tanks, and they value them greatly.

This time, holes were dug, walls were precast and dry, teams were ready to go. Last time we built four latrines. This time sixteen. Three water tanks last time. Sixteen this time. That's three or four times as much done, with half the Papsda man power. You REALLY can see how increased understanding and basic education makes such a huge difference.

## HIGHLIGHT...

It was a real highlight to invite this granny in with her grandchild (pictured right). She was just so excited to experiment with the puzzles. She is probably about 70 and has never experienced anything like this. Triangles into the triangle hole. Circles into the round hole.

In New Zealand we take this kind of thing for granted, but it's such an important part of brain development that has been taken away from this country. Building towers or doing puzzles are not just playing, they are developing and stretching our brains.

Look at the delight on the lady's face. It was such a beautiful moment, as she achieves and learns alongside her grandchild. The potential and opportunities for the children to have a safer, healthier and fuller life are so much greater now, and it's really exciting for us at Papsda to be part of this journey.



## TASKS ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE TRIP

Preschool completed, land levelled, toilets and water tanks installed, playground built.  
Kid's programme – 90 kids per day for sanitation, hygiene and values training + fun!  
Installed 16 water tanks and 16 latrines.  
Assessment meetings with Commune Council, village reflect groups and local ADRA specialist.  
A new found sense of hope for the villagers.

## WHERE TO FROM HERE?

One rice crop a year is the main income producing activity in the village. Other than that, parent age adults leave the village in the dry season to find work, often illegal. They hopefully return home to their children and the grandparents, with some cash.

ADRA Cambodia is currently working with a partner to assess what could be new ways to create sustainable livelihood in our little village. We'll be a part of some of those discussions to assess how we can best help, but at this point we are planning another trip in late November. If you feel the call, now's the time to be having discussions about being a part of that.





# THE FAITH BOX

“Don't shine so others can see you. Shine so that through you, others can see Him.”  
- C. S. Lewis ”

Have you ever tried to “catch” your children with a tea towel “net” as they run past you to grab 6 paper fish that make the sentence, “With God, all things are possible”? Or written the letters, “V E R S T A N” on kids’ feet and had them lie down and intertwine their feet to spell, “SERVANT”? Then washed their feet with baby wipes like Jesus did to his disciples? That’s what Faith Box is all about! Playing your way through the Bible. It’s ideal for families of kids aged 4-12 years who want to have fun and raise their children to love God, love their families and love themselves.

God tells us to, “write these commandments that I’ve given you today on your hearts. Get them inside of you and then get them inside your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning to when you fall into bed at night.” (Deuteronomy 6:6, The Message)

As today’s busy parents, we often want to teach Godly truths to our children in the home, but we struggle to find the time and the way. We do not mean for it to happen, but when it is not prioritised, the passing on of faith to the next generation begins to disappear. The years pass, the children grow, and we have missed the opportunities God gave us. Faith Box is a resource that enables you to prioritise the nurturing of faith within your family.

The Faith Box has been developed to equip you to share faith with your children through a regular and vibrant time of learning, fun, exploring the Bible and praying together. It helps you to build strong family memories as well as a culture of inquiry and discussion. Feel free to adapt it to suit your situation—shorten it if your children are younger, use the extra ideas if you are wanting more, or have the older children lead. You know your family best and what will work for them. Don’t be afraid to try new things, laugh more and go a bit deeper. The Faith Box is made to work alongside a family’s commitment to a faith community, their loving service in the community and beyond.

Research tells us that the way we communicate the stories of the Bible is significant. When children understand the special calling and purpose of the person in the Bible story and relate it to a purpose for their own lives, it offers a different dimension of inspiration for them.

Approach Faith Box time with intention as it is designed to become the highlight of the children’s week! It will sweeten and bless your family life. Enjoy this time to laugh and connect with your kids and learn about God’s ways through play, enquiry and discussion. If you meet with resistance, stay positive and push through. We promise it will be worth it! It is amazing how the child who initially drags their feet ends up enjoying it the most.

## HOW IT WORKS

Set aside 30 minutes or so for “Faith Box Time”. We suggest a regular slot every week so everyone can look forward to it.

1. Choose any lesson, or follow the church season.
2. Gather the bits listed under “Prep” (kids love to help with this part!). They are mostly simple household items. Put them in the Faith Box for the “surprise” factor. (Each Faith Box comes with the first surprise!)
3. Read ahead and spend a few minutes reviewing the 4 pages to keep one step ahead of the kids!
4. Call everyone - It’s Faith Box time! All ages can join in... Mums, Dads, kids, grandparents and friends love Faith Box time. Kids can open the box now!
5. Follow along together. Read through the Intro and Instructions as it takes you through the interactive fun.
6. Put Faithboard on fridge and write this sessions verse/motto on the Faithboard, and attach the relevant ‘Big Promise’ magnet to the inside lid of the Faith Box.
7. Smile and take a minute, knowing you have shared your faith and invested in your children and worshipped God.

**For more Faith Box tips, see the Kidzone page overleaf on how to engage your children in FAITH BOX.**

Get creative, make your own!  
Or you can purchase the original. Faith Box have kindly offered \$10 off the purchase price. To redeem this offer simply use the name: **Papsda** when you order at [www.faithbox.co.nz/collections/frontpage](http://www.faithbox.co.nz/collections/frontpage)







## EXTREME NEWS |

If you were here early for the Easter Praise service on the 28th of March, you would have heard the squeals from the foyer, felt the stampede of children brushing past as you walked through the church doors and if you were lucky enough, tasted the yummy treats that were made as an eggstra-special Easter gift. It was an Extreme Easter special! The children were put into three separate groups and at the word "Go!" they were off. Gavin and Steven, ready to lead the Easter treasure hunt, Vicky-Lee holding up the cookie fort and Miles ready to 'nail it' to the cross.

The first group of treasure hunters listened tentatively for their first clue and like a bullet they were off. "To the Farmyard!", "It's in the kitchen!", "Is it outside?" One by one excited Extreme kids ventured around our church, collecting valuable cards that would eventually show them a much bigger picture-the true meaning behind Easter. Vicky-Lee was greeted by children keen to get their hands dirty at the cookie station. She cleverly demonstrated how to decorate the gingerbread cookie using the assorted sprinkles, silver balls and icing. At the slightest pause, hands came flying from all directions, each trying to get a hold of the tasty icing. Creative sparks were flowing as the children thought of the best ever cookie creation that they would gift to someone very special. A reminder that we are all special, deserving of the gift Jesus gave when He gave His life for all.

Meanwhile, through the chaos, standing tall at the front of the stage was a cross with words "Cancelled ALL our sins," nailed to the top. Miles, waiting patiently at the cross with his Bible, post-it notes, nails and hammers perfectly fit for smaller hands. Children entered a discussion about the cross, what it meant to them, how Jesus dying on the cross makes them feel and what it was that Jesus did for all our past and future sins. Each child was then encouraged to write on a post-it note. Something they may be struggling with that they would like Jesus to take care of, cancel out, make new, and then nail it to the cross. Looking at the response from each young person was astounding. Colourful post-it notes nailed all over the cross created a very real picture of what Jesus did all those years ago and how relevant the cross and the Easter message is today.

This is what Extreme is about. Learning about and experiencing God's love and compassion through arts, crafts, singing, and discussion groups then finding ways to apply it in everyday life. I am excited about what God is doing in the lives of our Extreme kids and can't wait to see what the rest of the year ahead entails.

- Jaz Newport



## HOT TIPS FOR FAMILY TIME AT HOME

Continued from page 18

THE FAITH BOX

### GET COMPLIANCE FROM EVERYONE

Children just love the interaction and closeness that Faith Box times bring. However, they may need a little encouragement at first. Draw aside the eldest (or most vocal) child beforehand and explain how you need their enthusiasm when you introduce family time to the others. If you play a game and everyone dashes off without starting it properly – it may lead to chaos. Line up the children and 'high five' them. Make some drama - use a timer, party popper or 2 pot lids to start. That way you have their attention and compliance.

### USE THE 'TEASE' FACTOR TO BUILD ANTICIPATION...

One parent writes. "Each week, after the prayer, I say in an excited conspiratorial whisper 'next time, we'll be building a tent', or 'next week, there will be a treasure hunt'... and the anticipation level sky-rockets." Children love the secrecy of what's in the box – even if they helped gather the bits, they don't know what they will be used for. The element of surprise is a great tool for teaching kids.

### ENGAGE THE YOUNG ONES

If you have a younger child – get them to bang the pot lids. Modify some questions so they can answer them.

### THE VISUAL PROP

Kids learn so much more and remember what we talked about when they see and touch a prop. Have fun with the upside-down glass in the water representing the parting of the red sea or shaking the marble in the cream to "transform into something new" as we read about Saul becoming Paul.

### RELAX

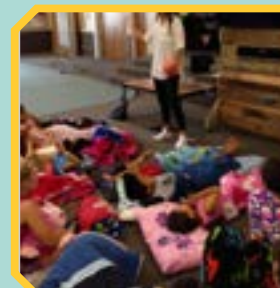
Don't be concerned if the discussions go way off track - listening to your children's perceptions and stories is part of the role you have in guiding their conclusions. Your aim is to help them see the world through God's eyes.

## CONNECT EVENTS

Back in March this year, I had the privileged to help organise and attend two awesome connect events to kick start the year. We first started with a Treehouse and Extreme Movie night. The event was held on a Saturday night where kids were asked to invite their friends to come along to an awesome night filled with games, pizza, popcorn and a movie. The evening starting with a few games led by Sel Seluone as kids arrived, and then Hannah Saifoloi closed Sabbath with praise and worship and a prayer. As the hall filled up with the smell of yummy pizza, the best part of the night began. All the kids lined up for a box of pizza to share with their friends and then got comfy with their beanbags, pillows and blankets all ready to start the funny animated movie, 'Khumba'. Half way through, we had a 10 minute interval and provided the kids with a selection of flavoured ice-creams for desert. The night ended with some sleepy eyes but a lot of smiles, thank-you's and a whole heap of fun. It was such a great night spent with such awesome Treehouse and Extreme kids.

The following morning, despite being tired from the event we had the night before, I took my boys along to the Farmyard and Jungle Steam Trains Connect Event. Although the morning started wet and chilly we had a huge turnout of families whose kids were super excited to ride the mini steam trains. There were around fourteen families who attended that day and it was such a hit. The kids enjoyed tooting along the mini tracks, little hills, through the tunnels and around the Mangere Centre Park. The day concluded with a picnic under the sun and a super fun lolly scramble for all the kids. It was such a great day and my kids raved about it all night long. I had such a fantastic weekend spent with our Papsda kids and can not wait until the next event coming up in July.

-Melissa Mataio  
If you would like to know more about our upcoming Kidzone events please grab a Kidzone calendar from the Information Desk or e-mail Melissa at [melissa@papsda.co.nz](mailto:melissa@papsda.co.nz)





# LIFEGROUP SURF TRIP

BY BRE GENTRY

The church service had finished, and as most of the congregation lingered in the foyer or ambled out the doors, a group of six 14-15 year old girls raced excitedly around the grounds, gathering together packs, sleeping bags, wetsuits and of course, stashes of snacks. It was time for their annual girls life group camp. And this time, it was no ordinary camp... it was a surf camp. This group of determined lasses had decided that even though Autumn was well underway, and the weather forecast was for rain, they wanted to learn to surf.

So, that's exactly what we did. Boards strapped to the roof, decked out in Karl's white Isuzu Big Horn, the girls, Ashlee Pantan and I set out for a weekend of adventure. McLaren Falls was the name of the reserve that we'd decided to base ourselves at—a beautiful spot in the Kaimai Ranges in the Bay of Plenty region. Upon arrival, we lugged the large, heavy tent out and began to make ourselves a home for the weekend. Now, in all honesty, I had anticipated the pitching of the tent process to consist mainly of Ashlee and I wrangling it up whilst the girls ...'supervised'. But, much to my surprise and pleasure, every one of them jumped straight in, and helped. Within 10 minutes, we had the big 12-man tent set up and ready for occupation! As much as these Auckland teens may have looked like typical city gals, they proved that they could handle it in the wild. As the day went on, they continued to impress and surprise me; there were no complaints (only laughter) about the amount of sheep droppings in our campsite, or the lack of quality food (and cutlery) at dinner-time or even the 6.30am wake up call that came the next morning.

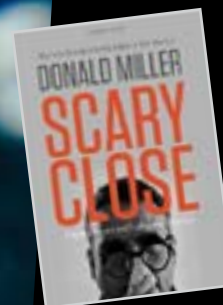
We rose with the first golden streaks of light, everyone uncharacteristically quiet in a mixture of sleepiness and nervous excitement for what the day was going to bring. Arriving at the beach, we picked a good spot, and began our 'beach lesson', teaching the girls how to stand up on the board (without the added element of the water). They all popped up like pros and we were soon headed into the waves. This was another point where these girls surprised me, they ALL got up and rode the waves. They all stayed in for almost 3 hours, determined to get better and better. Then after lunch, and an adventurous hike up the Mount (Maunganui) — they wanted back in the water. Surfing again!

More than just being a fun, and good surfing experience, our life group camp seemed to bring the girls closer together. It was nothing Ashlee or I specifically had to do as 'leaders/adults', rather, just giving these girls a space where they were a little out of their comfort zone, and allowing them to just 'do their thing' we were able to see friendships deepen and our life group community tighten.

## A couple of the girls shared what it was like for them:

"The life group surf camp was a really great way to just relax and forget about all the silly things we worry about, we were able to be ourselves. We became comfortable around each other and didn't feel the need to be shy. I stepped out of my comfort zone and became more confident in my abilities and the way I was around people. We have made life long memories that we will always keep with us. And have become better and closer friends because of the awesome time spent together." — Janese.

"I loved talking in the tent that first night... How we got deep, meaningful and honest about the small things in life, the big things, our pictures of God. How we were all equal, there was no judging, put downs, all opinions were greeted with respect. There was a sense of belonging. We all formed a deeper unexplainable bond, that will never be broken no matter what life throws at us." — Caitlyn.



# READ WATCH OR LISTEN

WITH KEIRA BULLOCK

## BOOK - SCARY CLOSE

This is a book of profound reflections on the human experience when it comes to relationships. No matter what your pathway is, there is always something valuable to be gleaned from someone else's journey.

After decades of failed relationships and painful drama, Donald Miller decided he'd had enough. Impressing people wasn't helping him connect with anyone. He'd built a life of public isolation, yet he dreamed of meaningful relationships. So at forty years old he made a scary decision: to be himself no matter what it cost.

Scary Close is a book about the risk involved in choosing to impress fewer people and connect with more, about the freedom that comes when we stop acting and start loving. It is a story about knocking down old walls to create a healthy mind, a strong family, and a satisfying career. And it all feels like a conversation with the best kind of friend: smart, funny, true, important.

## MOVIE - GOD'S NOT DEAD

Families with high school aged children might find this movie great conversation fodder. It opens up dialogue about the existence of God and whether He can be proven or not. Present-day college freshman and devout Christian, Josh Wheaton (Shane Harper), finds his faith challenged on his first day of Philosophy class by the dogmatic and argumentative Professor Radisson (Kevin Sorbo). Radisson begins class by informing students that they will need to disavow, in writing, the existence of God on that first day, or face a failing grade. As other students in the class begin scribbling the words "God Is Dead" on pieces of paper as instructed, Josh finds himself at a crossroads, having to choose between his faith and his future. Josh offers a nervous refusal, provoking an irate reaction from his smug professor. Radisson assigns him a daunting task: if Josh will not admit that "God Is Dead," he must prove God's existence by presenting well-researched, intellectual arguments and evidence over the course of the semester, and engage Radisson in a head-to-head debate in front of the class. If Josh fails to convince his classmates of God's existence, he will fail the course and hinder his lofty academic goals. With almost no one in his corner, Josh wonders if he can really fight for what he believes. Can he actually prove the existence of God? Wouldn't it just be easier just to write "God Is Dead" and put the whole incident behind him? GOD'S NOT DEAD weaves together multiple stories of faith, doubt and disbelief, culminating in a dramatic call to action. The film will educate, entertain, and inspire moviegoers to explore what they really believe about God, igniting important conversations and life-changing decisions.

## MUSIC - LAURA'S STORY

The poetry of Laura's Story is unmistakable. Her song "Blessings" gave thousands a revelation about grief and hardship and where God sits in people's lives during those times. Her song "Grace" captures the limitlessness of God's grace with that same poise and power.

I ask you: "How many times will you pick me up, When I keep on letting you down?  
And each time I will fall short of Your glory, How far will forgiveness abound?"  
And You answer: "My child, I love you. And as long as you're seeking My face,  
You'll walk in the power of My daily sufficient grace."

# SHEDX

"Who are you leading to Christ?" Not a question that most gym trainers would ask each other, but then again, ShedX is not like most gyms. And Luke Gagamoe, Jay Okesene, Miah Ataera, Fainga'a Taufua, Trena Morse, Kevin Kuresa, Matt Carter and Karl Saifoloi are not like most trainers. But that's what ShedX is all about. Classes start and end with prayer. When classes finish, people just hang around, soaking up the inescapable feel of community. 30+ people, predominantly non-church attenders, are regularly turning up to Jay's happy hour class. Trena runs a class for women from around our community. After Miah's Wednesday night class, the attenders gather in a circle and have life group. After a recent Monday session workout, people shared life experiences with each other. It was real. I think ShedX is feeling a lot like church — a sweaty, grunting, stretching, huffin' and puffin church, where people come with their sore muscles and longing hearts, and our passion is to bring healing to both.

**SHEDX SESSIONS** | Sunday 8:30am — BoxFit | Monday 5:30pm — Post weekend blow out | Tuesday 5:30am - Crossfit | Tuesday 6:30pm - Grit X crossfit | Wednesday 9am — SHAPE (for Women) | Wednesday 6:30pm - Happy Hour Circuit & BoxFit | Wednesday 7:30pm — Life worx/Life group | Thursday 5:30am - Crossfit | Friday 5:30am - Boxing Class. All classes are \$5 ea OR pay direct into the account and pay \$10p/w for access to all classes.





revive<sup>®</sup>

# Recipe

Jeremy's newest cookbook creates delicious wholefood plant based meals from scratch in just 30 minutes! Each meal comes complete with several dishes and a preparation schedule to make the most of your time. Sample one of the dishes below!



## Chickpea Pizza

A healthy version and quick to make. You will love the chickpea base!  
MAKES 12 PIECES TO SERVE 6 PEOPLE

### Step 1 – Make Pizza Base

3 cups chickpea (besan) flour  
3 cups water  
1 teaspoon onion powder  
½ teaspoon garlic powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon oil  
oil for brushing the tray

In a mixing bowl, combine the chickpea flour with 1 cup of the water and mix well. When mixed, slowly add the rest of the water while mixing. This process will help avoid clumps.

Add the onion powder, garlic powder, salt and oil and mix well.

Select an oven tray (with sides) around 12 x 16in (300 x 400mm). Brush well with oil – especially the corners.

Pour in the chickpea mix and bake at 400°F (200°C) for 15 minutes.

The mixture may seem to be too runny however this is normal.

### Step 2 – Sauté Onion & Heat Sauce

1 large onion thinly sliced  
1 teaspoon oil  
2 cups tomato pizza or pasta sauce

In a small frying pan, sauté the onion and oil until soft and brown.

Warm up the tomato sauce in a small frying pan

### Step 3 – Assemble Pizza Toppings

2 cups baby spinach  
½ red bell pepper (capsicum) thinly sliced  
½ orange bell pepper (capsicum) thinly sliced  
1 cup hummus  
12 black olives pitted

On top of the pizza base start with the tomato sauce and then layer on the onion, the spinach and bell peppers.

Place 12 dollops of hummus over the base (4 by 3) and top each with an olive. Cut the pizza base into 12 square pieces.

*Tip:* This needs to be eaten straight away or the tomato sauce will leak through the base. If you need to eat later – just prepare the ingredients and add the toppings just before serving.

## COOK : 30

is now available. This fantastic resource is authored by Papsda's Jeremy Dixon, and is available from [www.revive.co.nz](http://www.revive.co.nz) or any good bookstore.





# WELCOME

Many of us have at some time had babies in the house, whether our own or someone else's. We are often amazed at how quickly they grow in their first year of life. Parents/caregivers who are new to Auckland or don't have community support, don't always know where to source parenting information relevant to their needs. This can be a very lonely time in the life of a family. Community support is often a lifeline for parents/caregivers.

ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) and Papsda have joined together to introduce **Welcome Baby, a Clothes Library here at Papsda** coordinated by Ina Louw. The aim is to identify families who would benefit from baby clothes, parenting information and community support during the baby's first year of life.

A significant aspect of the Welcome Baby Clothes Library is the building of relationships, and looking for additional opportunities to bless the family. Every family involved in the program will receive:

- A regular visit from the Welcome Baby Coordinator;
- A clothing pack catered specifically for their needs. (These packs are returned and replaced with the next size every three months);
- Information on parenting;
- Information on community events at the local church (such as playgroup, fitness group or other relevant groups); and
- Other support as requested by the family eg. food parcels, baby sitting, home-help etc.

#### Ina's story

"Meeting my first Welcome Baby family was one of the highlights of taking on this project with ADRA. I was told about a young couple who had a baby and two younger children. The young man had just lost his job. My first couple of times trying to get in touch with them was unsuccessful, but I prayed about it and one morning when I rang again the phone was answered by a very friendly guy who made me immediately feel at ease. We set up a time and day for a home visit and I have to confess that although I was very excited in starting with this project, I was also scared. However, God had gone before me and the day I met the family everything just felt natural and as if we knew each other for a long time.

# BABY...

Daniel and Stacey are two very loving, young parents who have had their fair share of difficulties. However, they are handling everything with grace and dignity. I remember how my eyes filled with tears when I asked Stacey, that first day, when last she and Daniel were out on a "date". She said "never", because she is happy enough to spend all her time with her children at home. Stacey has a boy of 8 and a little girl of 3 years from a previous relationship and a baby girl with partner Daniel. This couple is still very young, but the way that their little family matters to them is almost overwhelming. They are an awesome young couple and many young people can learn from their example. I love spending time with the three children and we have been on quite a few expeditions. I thank God for giving me the opportunity to have met them.

The most important factor of this whole project to me is the connection. I love spending extra time with the children by babysitting. This gives the parents a break from their normal routine. It also reminds them that they are important as a couple. I want them to know that they have someone to call on and that they matter just the way they are.

Our Welcome Baby Clothes Library is looking for PARTNERS to grow our programme. Here are just some of the ways you could help:

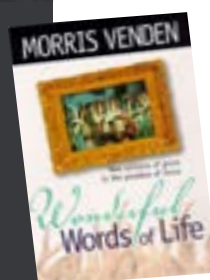
- Offer to be a Prayer Warrior for specific families;
- Volunteer to go on home visits to build relationship with a particular family;
- Assist with keeping a clothing in/out inventory;
- Knit, sew or crochet baby clothes or blankets;
- Donate very good quality pre-loved baby clothes and baby gear;
- Donate new baby clothes or other items;
- Help wash and sort baby clothes as they come back in; and
- Volunteer with other areas of need ie: food parcels, cooking a meal, baking, gardening, baby-sitting, home help, etc.

For more information, contact: Ina Louw on 021 123 6832 or at [ina.l@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ina.l@xtra.co.nz).



## PAPSDA LIBRARY RECOMMENDED READS

Visit the Papsda Library (entrance near the Info Desk) to find out how you can borrow the books featured here!



#### WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE | by Morris Venden

We've heard the parables of Jesus before but Morris brings out the application of them in our lives: On the parable of the prodigal son – "As he came to his senses he also began to come to his father. Then he gave up trying to fix his own life. He didn't wait to save money for some new clothes or for a donkey to ride home. He immediately arose and headed for his father's house." Read this and other parables in a way that highlights the grace of Jesus to us.



#### GOD OF WONDERS | DVD

View the majesty and awesome hugeness of God through the vastness of the universe and how tiny Earth is in the scheme of things. And yet, zooming into our cells and the complex design, we can see God's interest and care for us. God is amazing and present with us.



#### FOR KIDS | What happens when I talk to God by Stormie Omartian

Praying isn't just about asking God for things, we can also tell God about things we are thankful for and saying sorry for mistakes we make. This picture book shows how we can talk to God about everything.

#### OTHER LIBRARY NEWS |

The Library is nearly finished cataloguing all the items it stocks (over 3,000!) Please have a look on <http://papsdalib.koha.kiwi.nz/> No need to login, just click the search button to see all the items we've catalogued so far. Search by key word (e.g. Parables), by author or view all books/ DVDs.

Then come see us in the library and borrow the ones that catch your eye!



# 360+

## CONNECT CAMP 27 FEB - 1 MAR

This is the third year in a row we have held 360 Connect Camp at Tapapakanga Regional Park - and looking at the photos, you can see why. It's the perfect venue for young people to come away for the week-end and, well, just be young people.

This year's theme was 'Our Call of Duty'. Based on the popular Play Station game, the attendees were divided into four combat teams - SAS, Navy Seals, Ghost Army and The Marines. The activities and challenges were epic, and all designed to emphasize the idea that we all have a duty to build strong, positive connections with our fellow human beings.

Connect Camp 2015 has been the best-attended camp so far, with over 120 young people and volunteers. We were delighted to have a number of our ShedX (360 Community Gym) members also attend. It's exciting to see growing collaboration between our programs.

Connect Camp helps young people feel **CONNECTED.**



## TOUCH RUGBY 22 FEBRUARY

360 Touch Rugby Teams have been competing in the annual NNZC Rotorua Touch Competition. This is a quality competition with very competitive teams all vying for top honours.

Teams come from as far away as Wellington. This year we took 24 young people to the competition - a B team and an A Team. Our B team performed well, reaching the semi finals. But it was our A team that brought home the winner's cup!

Well done to both our touch rugby teams.

360 Sports helps young people experience the thrill of **TEAM WORK.**



# TRAIL BUSTER

Every breath and step you made, every thought that was prayed and monies raised and paid, made a difference in the lives of young people in our city and in ADRA sponsored projects abroad. Thank YOU.

9am on Sunday March 15 the change started when the walkers started walking, the runners started running, with huffing and chuffing and puffing, Cos we know that when the walkers stop walking, the runners stop running, and the huffing becomes bluffing, then the change starts stopping.

Every dollar donated with your love will support the Cause for which it was given because you believe it's not about what it is, it's about what it can become. Thank YOU.

Along the dam with a hiss and a roar, up to the look out with sights to adore, up to the gate (don't go through it) into the Kauri forest and along the ridge, down and along the winding track, too late now—no turning back, down the stairs to the river crossing and finally Jacob's ladder and the last 2km to the finish.

And we know that Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's not. Thank YOU.

I know that all around me there are troubles of more than one kind. Some come from ahead and some come from behind. But with your donations I've bought a big bat. I'm all ready you see. Now the troubles are going to have troubles with me!

PS: TrailBuster was good, TrailBuster was fun, Step-Up is another one.

## TRYATHLONS 21-22 FEB & 21-22 MAR

We are grateful to Sanitarium Health Food Company for offering us two opportunities to engage with community and also to fundraise for 360. These opportunities are afforded to us through two Weetbix-Kids TRYathlon events - St Heliers Bay and Narrow Neck Beach, North Shore.

These are great opportunities for our young people to experience giving back to the community by helping with event set up, marshalling, water safety, finish line, administration and parking.

We had 45 volunteers assist us at each event. Community volunteering gives our young people a strong sense of **PURPOSE.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 12-14 Mountain Top Camp | July 24-25 Intersexions High School & 18+ | Aug 7-9 Man Camp | Aug 30 Ripple Leadership Summit | Oct 1-4 360 Service Trip - Kaitaia | Oct 9-11 Volleyball Tournament | Nov 8 Step UP | Nov 21-22 Soccer Tournament | Dec 6 360 Formal Banquet



The Papsda team  
at the launch of  
Crime2Christ on  
May 28



# CRIME<sup>2</sup>CHRIST

The Lord says, "I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron." Isaiah 45:2  
Three years and twenty days on from the first gathering of dreamers who dared to believe that one day the New Zealand Police would adopt an overtly Christian initiative as part of their Prevention First strategy and we can gratefully declare, "The Lord has gone before us!"

On 28 May 2015, Crime2Christ was officially launched with ceremony, celebration and great food at the Manukau Central Police Station.

Armed with a magazine full of testimonies of well-known people who have journeyed from a life of crime to Christ, led by the Crime2Christ Charitable Trust team and supported by pastors and volunteers from Christian churches around South Auckland—the holding cells in police stations of South Auckland initially, then the whole city and finally the country will no longer need to be places of despair, pain, inevitability and brokenness. These places will have an injection of hope.

## THE VEGGIE PATCH

Just over the fence, there's some amazing growth going on at South Auckland SDA School. When we think of schools and growth, we immediately think of growing school rolls, growing the schools income, or growing the schools spiritual and academic capacity. But growing vegetables? Why would a school want to grow vegetables?

Last year, Liz Hurlow and former teacher Samantha Knopper had a burden to find a way to provide fresh fruit and veggies for needy families in our community. So a joint project between the School and Papsda was started where the school would provide land for a number of garden beds, and that the produce from this project would go to needy families via the school or via Papsda's Community Food Bank. What an awesome idea!

Late last year, the gardens were harvested for the first time. Produce was given to Calvary Communities 'Homes of Grace' initiative as well as to the Papsda Community Food bank. After six weeks of school holidays, it was clear that work needed to be done on the gardens. It was also clear that the joint project needed a caretaker who would regularly tend and care for the crop — a volunteer who would give of their time to ensure the vision of providing fresh produce to families could continue. Enter Mr Richard Wolfgramm Snr, a regular attendee at Papsda. Mr W volunteers his time to plant, weed, and cultivate the school's gardens. At present we have cauliflower, broccoli, bok choy, spinach and carrots with plans ahead for tomatoes, lettuce, taro, bananas and a citrus grove containing lemons, oranges and feijoas.

The most exciting thing about our joint veggie garden project is that we are increasing our capacity to serve our community, because that's what it's all about! Thank you South Auckland SDA for providing the land and the capital for the project. Thanks Mr W for volunteering. Judging by Mr W's green fingered ability to grow awesome fruit and veggie's, the next position we'd be looking to fill could be security!

- Karl Saifoloi

“ In ministering to people, often 'our success' with be in proportion to their belief, in our belief in them.  
-Ellen White



8 November 2015 ▶ 7:30am Start ▶ 23 Kilometre Track  
Hillary Track, Waitakere Ranges ▶ Registration Details Coming Soon  
CHANGING LIVES AT HOME & OVERSEAS ▶ SUPPORTING YOUTH MENTORING & LEADERSHIP



# MEET A KIDZONE PAPSDA-ITE

**Name:** Malachi and Jacob Mataio.

**Age:** Malachi: 4, Jacob: 2

**School:** Top Kids Manorou.

## What is your favourite thing to do when you get home from school?

Malachi: Playing with my toys in my room, reading books, reading books again, making aeroplanes with Dad  
Jacob: Drawing, playing with spiderman, story time with mum.

## What Kidzone group are you a part of?

Malachi: Jungle.  
Jacob: Farmyard but I go with Malachi.

## What's your favourite thing to do in The Jungle?

Malachi: Playing at the house, drawing, building, playing with play dough.  
Jacob: Playing with play dough, singing songs.

## What is your favourite bible story?

Malachi: When God saved the animals. (Noah's Ark)  
Jacob: The big boat and rainbow. (Noah's Ark)

## What is something cool you do with your family?

Malachi: Building with daddy, playing, saying sorry.  
Jacob: Reading books with mummy, drawing.

## If you had a super power what would it be?

Malachi: To be strong like Hulk.  
Jacob: Be like spiderman.



Kelly and Kevin Harvey welcomed a little sister for Riley on Valentine's Day, Feb 14. Welcome to the world, Chloe Grace Harvey!



## NEW PAPSDA BABIES



Lucas Graham Macdonald arrived on Saturday morning, 25 April 2015, weighing 7lb 3oz (3.28kg). Congratulations to Joselayne, Roderick and big brother Kyle.



Ryno & Kerry Swanepeel were proud to announce the birth of little Scarlett Alice born at 6.21 am on May 9, 2015. What a cutie!

## OUR LIBRARY LIFEGROUP

If you haven't yet found a group on Sabbath morning that stimulates and challenges your thinking, and grows your faith, how about joining the happy souls in the Library?

We sure don't want to become like the dried out wineskins Jesus taught about, and find our shared time of learning, reading, praying and discussing Scriptures together, challenges, invigorates and refreshes us for the week ahead. As Jane said, "I have learned so much as we study the Bible together and my faith has really grown." Another said, "Well, I wouldn't keep coming if I didn't really enjoy this class!"

In summer we sometimes enjoy a picnic lunch together after church in the Botanical Gardens, or a pot-luck lunch at our home. When Kees turned 80, such an auspicious occasion demanded a party! We all need to belong, to feel appreciated and comfortable with others who are loving and accepting. That's what we like about our Library group.

- Robin Greenfield

*Pictured above clockwise from front left - Robin Greenfield, Maureen Cazalet, Raina Higgins, Stephany Clarry, Mele Teulilo, Novena Pio, Kees van den Bosch, Ida Millist, Elaine Colquhoun, Jane Hutcheson, Peter Greenfield.*



## MEET our lifegroup



“Unforgiveness lets someone who hurt you live rent free in your head.”  
-David Asscherick

YOUR WORD FOR TODAY THESE INSPIRATIONAL PIECES ARE FROM 'WORD FOR THE DAY' - BUT THERE ARE PLENTY MORE DAILY SOUL FOOD SOURCES AND APPS YOU CAN PUT ON YOUR PHONE. GREAT TO ADD IN TO YOUR DAILY WORSHIP!

# SOUL FOOD

## THE REWARDS OF CONFRONTATION

'...do not reject the Lord's discipline...' Proverbs 3:11

The Bible says, 'Do not reject the Lord's discipline, and don't get angry when He corrects you. The Lord corrects those He loves, just as parents correct the child they delight in.' (Proverbs 3:11-12 NCV) Because God loves you, when He sees things in your life that could potentially damage you and other people, He deals with them. Paul writes, 'Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God...' (Romans 11:22 NKJV) God will deal with you gently, but if you don't listen He may have to deal with you severely. That's because He has too much invested in you to let you fail.

Not only does God confront us, He expects us to confront one another when we're in the wrong. Paul stood up to Peter, his fellow leader, in front of Jewish and Gentile believers because the issue was important to their mission's success (Galatians 2:14). Healthy confrontation results in six things: (1) Clarification. You get a better understanding of the person and what happened. (2) Change. Hopefully improvement will come from it—and the improvement may be in you! (3) An improved relationship. Handled correctly, confrontation will deepen your relationship with the other person. (4) Purity. As word gets out, the organisation will be purified and sobered. (5) Respect. People will appreciate and respect your leadership even more. (6) Security. They'll feel safe knowing that you're strong enough to take a stand when it counts. People want a leader who says, 'When there's a problem I'll deal with it directly, promptly, and respectfully. I'll help correct the situation and get us back on track.'

SoulFood: Judg 16:1-19:15, Matt 13:1-9, Ps 45, Prov 13:13-16

## YOUR RESPONSES

'...every good tree bears good fruit...' Matthew 7:17 NIV

Take a moment to consider these two questions. Question one: How do you respond when you're treated badly? A man stopped by a news-stand every morning to pick up a paper. The man behind the counter was always nasty, yet the customer was always nice to him. When a friend asked him why he remained so kind in the face of such rudeness, he replied, 'Why would I let his attitude dictate my attitude?' Question two: How do you respond when you're tempted? You say, 'I'm in love with him. He's married and I know it's wrong, but I can't help it.' Actually, you can. You can spend an hour listening to stories from women who lost their husbands because of infidelity. Look into the eyes of their children. Hear the betrayal, and see the broken promises in their eyes. When you do, you'll think new thoughts!

The Bible says, '...Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.' (Galatians 5:16 NKJV) At any moment you can turn your mind to God and your thoughts will change. Feelings are like spoiled children; they can take a little longer to come round, but if you keep your mind 'fixed' on God, your feelings will eventually line up with your thoughts. Looking back, you'll be glad you were guided by God instead of your impulses. It's as if there's a little network called HSN (Holy Spirit Network) where you can tune in at any time. When you ask God to guide your thoughts, then pause and listen to what He says - He will guide you.

SoulFood: Deut 30:1-32:28, Matt 10:1-10, Ps 62, Prov 12:18-19

# FOOTSTEPS UPDATE

JUST OVER THE FENCE FROM PAPSDA, LIES OUR FOOTSTEPS PRESCHOOL. THEIR WORK IN THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY IS IMMEASURABLE AND IT'S ALWAYS GREAT TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY'VE BEEN UP TO!

Our preschool looks empty and quiet on a Sabbath - except for the adult life-groups who meet in the classrooms, however during the week is an epicentre of amazing learning. Our first term was all about WATER... and why not with the amazing summer we were blessed with. The children enjoyed water slides, fountains, sprinklers, paddling pools, hoses and all things water as they learned about the properties and amazing uses of water that we take for granted. We were reminded of our dependence on water and abundance in our beautiful country as we participated in fundraising activities which raised over \$770 for our adopted Cambodian village to help buy and install more water tanks in the next visit. We are proud to be helping raise the next generation to think about others and desire to help in practical ways.

We were also, once again, recipients of God's provision and blessing as we welcomed two new staff members, Kerry into the role of Lead Teacher in the classroom and Debbie as our new Playgroup Coordinator. Our vision to 'Connect children to Jesus' is foundational to all we do and not a task we take lightly so having staff with a heart for God is our top priority. Both Kerry and Debbie are gifted early childhood teachers with a desire to form meaningful relationships with the children and parents and in so doing bring 'the hands and feet of Jesus' to the forefront of their educational experience. A few highlights of our children's learning this year include:

- Exploration and discovery about God's creation during their visit to Kelly Tarlton's Sea Life Aquarium;
- Fun and exhilarating play for the younger children at Potter's Park aquatic play land; and
- Sharing the Easter story through music, video, drama and games at our special Easter Whanau Connect Event in March.

This term in the toddlers class they are intrigued by animals, natural patterns and transporting things... keeping our classroom teachers very busy providing things to engage and create opportunities for learning around these interests. They are also getting to go to the Zoo to find out more about the tigers, elephants and giraffes! Our older classroom has been inspired by the Samoan saying: "O le fanau o manu e fafaga i fua o laau a'o fanau o tagata e fafaga i upu ma tala." which translates as: "Babies of birds are fed with berries, but babies of men are fed with words and stories." They will be exploring stories and life experiences and encouraging the children to see how each person's story is valuable in shaping the way they view the world around them... Sound familiar? - Kind of reminds me of Papsda's mission: "Hearing their story and sharing God's story".

Thank you for your continued prayers for the ministry at Footsteps. Although you may not have the privilege of working directly with the children like we do - you can partner with us to enlist God's power and strength to inhabit our Centre, the lives of the staff and families and to daily make an impact on His precious children for eternity.

- Keryn McCutcheon



## COMING UP

July 24th-30th will see Papsda hosting author and visiting speaker Cheri Peters from the USA. Cheri is well-known for her inspirational story of transformation. She testifies that God is crazy about you, and knows this to be true in a profound life-changing, game changing kind of way. Cheri is focussed on a God of recovery and will be here for our worship service, Intersexions and a few meetings throughout the week. You won't want to miss this! Stay tuned.



