

NEWS *from the* PEWS



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News from the Pews is the official
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TWENTY TWENTY TWO SEASONS, GRATITUDE & TOGETHERNESS

“For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven”

And what a season it has been. It has been challenging and at times stressful, but it's been a season that has taught us what really matters in life. This season has revealed just how resilient, creative and innovative we can be when we work together.

The last day of April saw us finally return to being able to worship together at Papsda each week, after 9 long months apart. But we didn't return to 'life as we knew it', we 'started new' and I'm so glad that we did.

Thank you for being willing to try new things. Thank you for being willing to learn and adapt from what this season has taught us about prioritising what really matters. Thank you for helping to make 'starting new' a reality, even though it may have felt a little uncomfortable. Thank you for committing to connection with God and others more than anything else.

I'm so excited to have witnessed the positive impact our discussion groups have had each Sabbath. Thank you for engaging and thinking outside the box and for really listening to each other's thoughts and ideas to help you formulate yours. This only makes us better.

2022 has also seen Papsda refine its discipleship plan and process. Discipleship, in essence, is our journey with God and with others and it is the legacy that we create and leave for future generations. Discipleship is my relationship with God, lived out. It is personal. It is relational. It is intentional. It is purposeful and it can radically change our lives.

How do you see God? How are you connecting with Him and others?

How are you intentionally growing your relationship with God and others and how are you sharing the God you know with people you know? When we do discipleship together, we make each other better.

Life is made up of seasons and no season is more important or significant or better than another. We need every season because every season teaches us something. I'm grateful for this season and for the time you have allowed me to lead in this place. To have the privilege, and responsibility, to lead a community that you have been a part of your whole life is truly a gift and I'm so grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. I feel so incredibly proud to have served alongside you in this role and continue to be grateful for the ways I will continue to serve alongside you.

I am proud that Papsda is known and seen in this community as a safe place that accepts all people from all walks of life and that we offer hope, help and healing. Thank you for being a part of that change and creating that environment. Together we are better.

I am looking forward to this next season and grateful to be able to serve alongside William and Sarah-Jane. These guys love Jesus, love people and want this place to be a refuge that continues to reveal our incredible God to as many people as possible.

I can't wait to see how God will move through us, as a faith community, as we continue to serve together in this next season. Bring it on!

BY KARYN NEWSON



This is what we call *discipleship!*



We are all learning how to follow Jesus together.

We would love to help you take **ANOTHER STEP to grow your relationship **bigger** with God.**

MEET OUR 2023 LEADERSHIP DUO

A CONSTANT FRIEND PASSIONS

There I was at the end of primary school when God moved my family from one side of the world to the other. I was old enough to know that life was going to change when I left the UK. And yet I was young enough to face the transition with hope when I arrived in Aotearoa.

Transitions have a way of exposing the best and worst of situations. I think the best part of moving here was that I met Jesus in my last year of high school. The worst part was that I missed the closing season of my grandparents’ lives. One thing remains through any change we experience, however, and that is how constant Jesus is. His friendship surpasses all and He promises to go with us (Deut 31:6).

So here we are on the banks of a transition for Papsda. We have some amazing staff who are moving into new seasons (and will still be a huge part of our whanau) and some new staff who are coming to join. One of whom is me. Let’s just acknowledge the reality - it’s exciting and uncertain for a lot of us! Who are these people? And what can we expect from them? I don’t have all the answers, but here is a little about me to help build a connection.

Beatrice and I have been married for 11 years. She probably married me for my good looks which included hair at the time. I married her because she loves Jesus more than me (and still does). Interestingly enough, we were actually married in the Papsda building. We disciple four boys in our home. Kevin is 10 and is the negotiator of our family



(he get’s it from his mother). Abel is 8 and is our strong and silent craftsman. Uriah is 7and would move mountains to help those around him. Samisoni is 5 and is the most cheerful and energetic soul we know. We couldn’t quite figure out the recipe for a girl, but are grateful nonetheless.

There’s plenty more to share, and I can’t wait to get to know each of you. For now, let’s keep close to Jesus through this transition. He is “the same yesterday, today and forever” (Heb 13:8).

BY WILLIAM IERERUA



Two years ago we had no idea the world was about to be flipped on its head. That life as we knew it would change forever. COVID came and disrupted every system, every country, every culture, every society, every daily activity - every person. What an incredibly unique and equally scary time to have lived through.

Corporate worship as we knew it was completely demolished. Not being able to gather at all for over a year was a two-sided coin. On one hand we were able to view church as God truly intended it; not as a building but as people. We were able to step outside ‘the box’ and explore new ways of doing worship. On the other hand it deprived us of the connection we as humans were created for. We were missing that weekly face-to-face check-in with our faith whanau. We got used to doing church in the comfort of our homes, which made the idea of coming back to ‘the gathering’ hard to comprehend.

The unprecedented events of the last two years has had both positive and not so positive effects on the world - and I am incredibly proud of the way Papsda has adjusted to every road block, every restriction, every challenge and every change with courage and love.

Looking back on the start of this year in particular, we were still doing church online. Our incredibly dedicated and talented team of staff and volunteers were able to produce a high quality program every week that brought worship and the good

news of Jesus into homes not only here in New Zealand but all around the world. The highlight for me during our season of ‘Papsda @ Your Place’ was the way we tapped into the Papsda value of Compelling Creativity to do church in a whole new way. Our community was able to rally together, bringing what gifts and resources we had, to make sure we were still able to experience worship as a Papsda whanau - no matter how different it looked.

In March, we were finally able to meet in small groups in our church building. This was the first time in a long time we were able to sit face-to-face (or should I say mask-to-mask) across from each other in a year. Though it looked different - it was a beautiful time of coming together after so long and gave us hope that meeting altogether again was a very real possibility.

Finally, on April 30, we had our first all-in worship gathering - with a twist. In planning for this, we wanted to look at it as ‘Starting New’ instead of coming back or starting again and we quite literally demonstrated that as we flipped our service structure around and met in our discussion groups after the worship service. This was huge. It was radical. It was something we had never done before. It was something new...but - we were in new territory. We had never lived through anything like this. The last year had been radical... it had been huge... it had changed us and so church as we knew it had to change as well.

Another highlight for me has been hearing your stories of how this simple shift has changed your whole church experience. Stories of new learnings and awakenings and stories of deeper connections being created with others and with God has been such a joy both to hear and experience personally. Sometimes God’s greatest gifts are on the other side of our fear... if we would only trust Him and step forward into His leading.

I am so grateful to be part of a church community that isn’t afraid of the new. That isn’t afraid of stepping out of the norm and into God’s calling. The last two years sent us on quite a journey, a journey that we will not soon forget. Looking back on it all I am convinced of one thing; that though ‘the gathering’ may look different in different seasons of life - its utmost importance and integral purpose remains; to restore and reconcile people to God and each other by hearing their stories and sharing Gods story. That is why we choose to gather. That is why we choose to worship together. Hebrews 10:25 says, “Do not give up on meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, instead encourage one another...”

As we head into 2023, let us continue to choose the gathering, to choose worshipping together, to choose encouraging one another so that we may become more connected to each other and to our God.

BY LEAH WOLFGRAMM



GET TO KNOW SJ

Ministry for me began when I came into the church through a church plant in Kawerau when I was ten years old. We were trained from the beginning about service, whanau, and ministry. We were involved in many aspects of what it is to be church – from up the front, to behind the scenes, and almost every bit in between. I entered full-time ministry in 2009 when I first moved to Christchurch to serve as a youth worker for a local church. After I ignored the strong encouragement of friends and the stern advice I received while being trapped in a kayak with a pastor, I finally said yes to God during a heated debate in the middle of a ministers meeting (stubborn much). I then went on to complete post-graduate studies at Avondale College before returning to South New Zealand where I have since served as a Youth Director, High School Chaplain, Associate Pastor, Discipleship Director, and Pastor.

As I reflect on what has influenced and shaped me, I can sum it up in one word: Whanau. If it had not been for those who chose to include me as their own, when I needed it the most, I would not be where I am today. This has not been determined by the blood of man but the blood of Christ, and I am humbled by the amazing people I continue to get to do life and ministry with. While many call me pastor, sis, or even bro, ultimately my favourite name to be called is “Aunty”. I have so many adorable nieces and nephews, and I also have six beautiful God-

babies. On any day of the week, if I could choose to be anywhere it would be with them. I cannot complete a description of whanau without mentioning Baxter. Don’t worry you’ll get to meet my real-life teddy bear, with enough personality to fill the church!

It is because of whanau that I have a great passion for intergenerational relationships, identity, community, vision, and strategy. I believe that if you have breath in your lungs then you are the church of today (not tomorrow or yesterday) – no matter what age you are. While our roles or responsibilities may change over time, God never retires us from being His disciples. I am the one who asks the “why?” questions. I love to not only know where we are going but why we are going (you can imagine how that played out on long trips when I was a child lol). That moment when people discover their purpose and God’s possibility for them and are released to live it out in their own skin, fills me with awe at God’s goodness and mercy! I feel extremely blessed to be able to begin a new season of life and ministry with your whanau there at Papsda.

BY SARAH-JANE RILEY

PAPSDA COMMUNITY SERVICES

This year, 2022, after lots of Covid interruptions, we were finally able to engage and support our community through our community ministries.

COMMUNITY DINING

Every Thursday night we serve our community with food, entertainment, testimonies and a word from the Bible. We are so blessed to have a great team this year with great cooks and the 'Grace I serve team' to volunteer and serve our Community. Some of whom are struggling and really need a hearty meal each week. We also had the Heart Foundation come in on one of our Dining nights to provide heart checks.



SOLID BASKETBALL

We run solid basketball every Friday and target youth who hang around the streets of Clendon and Manurewa. This year we put a SOLID basketball team in the SDA Queens birthday basketball tournament. To see these kids so happy and belonging to a team was priceless. At our last game we were in the changing room and our team was kneeling and praying together. Seeing them pray with gratitude and thankfulness was a great blessing to all our teams.



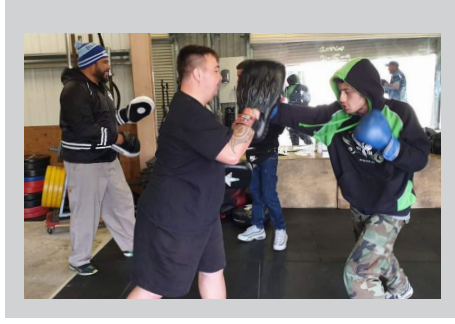
FOOD PARCEL DELIVERIES

BBM provide donated food parcels that we deliver to families in need every Friday. We are so blessed for the opportunity to bless others in our community, leaving them not just with a physical blessing but also a prayer for each family.



SOLID MENTORING

Our mentoring classes support troubled youth who come to us from 'Blue-Light' or 'Reconnect Family'. We run a boxing class for them and then teach on topics like making good choices, violence, drug and alcohol abuse, consequences for every action and many more. We are so grateful for our 'Grace' whanau who come and share their positive testimonies of change and give raw and real advice that help the youth, inspiring them to make better choices.



ASDAH WELLBEING WEEK

Another Solid highlight this year was waking up at 5am in the morning to go to ASDAH for their wellbeing week. I thought that there wouldn't be many students at that time but I was wrong! There was between 30 to 40 students that woke up at the same time as me and came again the Thursday that week! It was awesome getting to share what we do with the students at ASDAH.

SASDA FITNESS CLASSES

This year we were asked by SASDA primary school to do a fitness class every week in Term 1 & 2 with their year 7 and 8 students and in Term 3 with their year 5 & 6 students. After each class I shared about Bible Heroes. What a privilege for our Solid Program to be able to mentor our young students this year. We held two graduations to celebrate their achievements and they received a certificate and a Solid shirt each.



COOKING ON A BUDGET

Through the year we run cooking classes to teach people how to cook on a budget. It was great to see men and women learning how to cook and giving them the tools to take home and to cook for their families. At the end of every program we hold a graduation and every person receives a certificate, recipe book and essentials to start their cooking journey. We work together with 'Te Rito Ora' to run this program. We also partner with them to support our Community by providing health checks, our 'Mums and bubs big day out', giveaways and great networking and connection.



MATARIKI CLENDON REC CENTRE

Solid ran a Kickboxing class and games for youth from Clendon one evening and we had an opportunity to share the gospel to more than 70 young people.



SOLID BOXING & KICK BOXING

This year solid boxing and kickboxing classes have had a lot of positive feedback online (Facebook: Solid Community SA) with training and a spiritual word that is shared at the end of each class. My most memorable highlight is when we were huddled for our final prayer after sharing the Word and Tom (our prayer warrior) asked if there was anyone with any injuries or pain. Seven people put their hands up and after that one prayer they were all healed.



ADDICTION, POLICY & BUDGETING CLASS

This year we partnered with 'South-Seas' to run weekly programs for people in the community. These programs are to help with gambling, addiction, teaching people how to write policies and how to budget. After eight weeks they graduate with a certificate and we celebrate with cake.





AROUND PAPSDA





PASTORAL CARE

Serving you in the role of Pastoral care in 2022 has been an honour and a privilege. Coming alongside church members in their time of need and distress, is being the hands and feet of Jesus in action. Making contact by phone call, text or messenger chat is well received, especially when it happens at just the right time. Checking in on someone who I haven't seen at church is a reminder to them that they matter and are missed when they are not there. Some of our faith community have experienced tough times as a result of health challenges as well as grief and loss. Covid and the current economic climate have amplified this. Being Jesus with skin on in these times and upholding them in prayer has been meaningful as well as letting people know that they are seen and valued.

There have also been milestones with weddings, new additions to families, as well as significant birthday celebrations. As a Papsda whanau we want to be a part of the range of life transitions that we experience. We want to care and journey through all of life with you.

Our Papsda Counselling service has continued to impact the lives of people at Papsda as well as the wider community. In partnership with our students from MIT (Manukau Institute of Technology) and Laidlaw College we have provided 254 hours of free counselling to 50 individuals. This has a ripple effect on the families these individuals belong to. We are not all in the same boat. We are all in the same storm. Some of us have canoes, some of us have yachts, some of us are drowning. At some point we all

need support, and counselling offers the space for exploration, as well as tools and strategies to navigate a way forward.

My vision for 2023 is to zoom in even more into God's kingdom values. I am believing for enlargement of our territory, that we will be blessed indeed as a congregation, that we will not cause pain (1 Chronicles 4:10). I am expectant that El roi (The God who sees) will allow each of us to see him anew, and be seen by Him. And with this expanded vision, we can collectively bring transformation, restoration and reconciliation to our community.

BY MARY FREDERICKS



EPIC TIME ONLINE

2021 and the first couple of months of 2022 will be well remembered for the creative ways in which Debbie Marshall brought EPIC time online to you in your own home as Papsda navigated church life during the Covid restrictions. Through music, storytelling, lessons from the farm and super fun crafts Debbie inspired, challenged and pointed Kids to Jesus week in week out. Thank you Debbie for your energy and commitment. It certainly wasn't just the kids who looked forward to EPIC time online each week!



EPIC CHURCH FIRST

Long before the adults were able to gather again at the Papsda complex this year EPIC was the first group to meet regularly at Papsda after the long lockdown. On the 5th of March 2022 EPIC initially started two children's environments. During this time the EPIC team focused on sharing God's amazing love, having fun together face to face, and strengthening relationships with each other. Parents were also keen on face-to-face connection and so the Parenting Discussion Group moved from Friday night zooms to weekly Saturday mornings at the Papsda complex. To create more opportunities for discussion and connection at the end of each class barista coffee and teas were provided for the adults and hot chocolates for the children. The first couple of weeks felt strange to gather with mainly just the EPIC families attending the Papsda complex, however the connections regrew quickly as families chose to regularly attend and make it a priority for their children.

PAPSDA WORDFIND

- COMMUNITY
- COMPELLING CREATIVITY
- DYNAMIC CHANGE
- EPIC
- EXTREME
- FARMYARD
- FULFILLED
- HOLISTIC LIVING
- INCLUSIVE
- ISAIAH 58
- JUNGLE
- MIND BLOWING GENEROSITY
- PAPSDA
- RECONCILE
- RESTORE
- SELFLESS SERVICE
- STAUNCH FOLLOWING
- TREEHOUSE
- VALUES

E	M	E	R	T	X	E	X	R	A	W	C	Q
R	A	Q	K	L	S	T	C	E	U	H	O	B
D	F	F	X	I	T	B	M	C	P	O	M	Y
X	A	D	S	P	A	P	C	O	T	L	P	T
Y	R	X	M	N	U	I	B	N	Q	I	E	I
S	M	B	V	I	N	Q	N	C	X	S	L	S
E	Y	S	Q	A	C	O	C	I	K	T	L	O
L	A	G	X	R	H	X	P	L	T	I	I	R
F	R	F	T	T	F	N	Q	E	L	C	N	E
L	D	F	D	L	O	M	U	L	C	L	G	N
E	R	D	E	X	L	T	E	G	K	I	C	E
S	Q	C	R	I	L	R	S	N	X	V	R	G
S	M	E	O	T	O	E	U	U	N	I	E	G
S	X	P	T	G	W	D	O	J	M	N	A	N
E	X	I	S	A	I	A	H	5	8	G	T	I
R	T	C	E	Q	N	F	E	Y	M	N	I	W
V	Y	S	R	W	G	B	E	T	Y	T	V	O
I	W	Q	P	C	X	R	R	S	X	Y	I	L
C	S	E	U	L	A	V	T	T	D	F	T	B
E	G	N	A	H	C	C	I	M	A	N	Y	D
D	E	L	L	I	F	L	U	F	T	R	Q	N
W	G	T	Y	E	V	I	S	U	L	C	N	I
C	O	M	M	U	N	I	T	Y	B	T	I	M

S

Service and Mission

H

Homes Empowered

A

Authentic Relationships

P

Participation

I

Intergenerational Connections

N

Noteworthy Memory Events

G

God Encounters

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 3:18, NIV)



S.H.A.P.I.N.G EPIC DISCIPLES

Just as the whole church has been on a discipleship journey, EPIC also has been growing and SHAPING its disciples through running consistent life group time each week in the children’s EPIC environments. Having familiar, regular, and friendly volunteer faces turn up each week has been the key to discipling the littlest followers of Jesus here at Papsda. Growing disciples hasn’t just stopped with the children. The EPIC team have also been growing disciples amongst the volunteers and the EPIC families. This year EPIC has hosted training or connection events using this discipleship S.H.A.P.I.N.G.* model as a basis for growing EPIC disciples. The model focusses on 7 Essential Faith Experiences for children.

One highlight was EPIC hosting a ‘H= Homes Empowered’ training led by Victor and the EPIC team. Here we discussed and learnt ways families can create opportunities for connection with God through intentionally having spiritual conversations at home and wherever you go, creating space and time for short family worships, and using faith discussion cards as prompts, to name just a few. Providing varied opportunities for connection points with God was a key ‘take home’ from this training.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” - Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

EPIC also hosted an ‘I= Intergenerational Connections’ lunch and games afternoon this year. It was well attended by the young and the young at heart. See the photos below/on the next page. A new EPIC tradition is the EPIC children leading and hosting a thanksgiving lunch for all the EPIC volunteers. This experience focuses on children having opportunities for meaningful ‘P = Participation’ within the church community. Hopefully next year EPIC can focus more on building A= Authentic Relationships and facilitate other opportunities for G = God Encounters for EPIC kids and families.

**Faith Shaper Model created by Julie Westlake. The South Pacific Division Children’s Ministry Department.*



PARENTING DISCUSSION GROUP

The Parenting Discussion group has navigated many changes and shifts to when and how it meets this year due to Covid. However despite the shifting sands this discussion group has covered lots of interesting grace based parenting topics and made friendships along the way. Some highlights include discussions on allowing your children the freedom to make mistakes, the freedom to be different and the freedom to be candid. The group has also discussed how to build character such as resilience, courage, discipline, faith and integrity into their hearts and perhaps the most important of them all ... how to create homes that foster a secure love, strong hope and significant purpose in the lives of your children.



THE BIGGEST HIGHLIGHT

More than fun Sabbath school lessons and EPIC events the biggest EPIC highlight has been the EPIC team building beautiful connections and memories with the kids. When a child runs up to a volunteer and gives them a spontaneous hug or wants to sit by their life group leader rather than by their parents during the service or when a parent tells you that their child wants to go to church tomorrow because you’ll be there, those are real highlights!

So in closing, on behalf of Papsda, we would like to say a huge thanks to all the EPIC volunteers for the commitment, energy, and fun you poured into the EPIC kids and their families in 2022. Thank you for being that Jesus-loving, regular, positive influence in the EPIC children’s lives!

“But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.” - Matthew 6:20

BY LINDA CURTIS & DEBBIE MARSHALL

LOVE

THE LORD

YOUR GOD WITH ALL OF

your HEART and WITH ALL OF YOUR

SOUL and WITH all OF YOUR

Mind and With all OF

YOUR STRENGTH

MARK 12:30

COLOUR ME IN



360 HIGH SCHOOL

As I reflect on another year of leading our youth here at Papsda, I am reminded of the Prophet Elijah. At one particular point in Elijah’s story, God wanted to reveal himself to Elijah. The instructions given to Elijah were simple. Stand on the mountain and wait for God to reveal himself. As Elijah stood there he experienced three absolutely incredible natural forces. Firstly, a strong wind that tore into the mountain. Secondly, a powerful earthquake. And thirdly, a Fire. Much to his amazement, Elijah discovered that God did not reveal himself through these things. Lastly, Elijah experienced something unexpected. It was a “still small voice”. God chose to reveal himself in a very real and personal way to Elijah. That has been our vision for 360 this year.

After so much disruption and disconnection because of COVID, I believe that God was wanting to reveal himself to us this year through real and personal ways. We’ve experienced this mostly through our weekly



Friday night gatherings that we call 360 Connect. As we met week after week I saw God strengthening and growing connection in small, yet profound ways. His still small voice was being heard in moments of reflection, through small group time and through connection.

Another highlight of the year has been the formation of a young and eager 360 Worship band. It has been a delight to start the journey of mentoring and training the next generation of worshippers at Papsda. We’ve also been fortunate to join the sports tournaments run by the North NZ Conference this year, which has been a blast.

I’d like to thank all our parents, supporters, leaders and especially our 360 young people for an awesome year!

BY WILLIAM WOLFGRAMM



HEAR FROM OUR 360 YOUNG PEOPLE

I have been blessed to have joined 360 connect this year and have enjoyed making connections. It is an environment that is so welcoming, caring, and supportive. I have also enjoyed being able to learn essential life lessons as it has enabled me to grow as an individual. 360 connect holds a special place in my heart and it is always something I look forward to attending every Friday.

BY ZAHLIA PRASAD

The thing I enjoy the most about being part of the 360 worship band is how much I learnt every time we practiced and played for church. When I first joined the band, I wasn’t good at playing the keys and I didn’t even know what the chords were on the piano. But every time I came to practice, the team helped me to understand it more through demonstrations and encouragement. That helped me understand the instruments a lot more than I did before. This is why I enjoy going to band practices as I know that every time I am going to learn something and get better.

BY ASH HOEFELICH



360 connect on Friday is awnn. It’s a great opportunity to hang out and get to know other fellow members of our youth group that we don’t see often. It’s a fun way to end off our week as we play creative activities, and usually have game nights which is when you really get to know people and how competitive they are. 360 connect is an excellent way to build our relationships with God as we have life groups which are amazing because they are so relatable to our lives today. We learn positive life lessons that we can apply to our lives daily. 360 on Friday nights are not only to connect with others socially but most importantly to connect with God spiritually. All in all, I enjoy 360 because it is a safe place where we are all comfortable to be ourselves and are eager to grow with God.

BY DREW HOEFELICH



I enjoy being in the company of my fellow singers and band members during practices because of our shared love for music. I love that we’re able to share our talents with our Papsda family.

BY LA OFANOA



It’s pretty fun getting to practice and sing songs with the 360 group. When I was in other praise and worship groups, most were a bit older than I was, which was all good, but hanging with the gang is always cool. And it’s funny listening back on our mess-ups after recording.

BY DAHNELL SETEFANO



One of the favourite ways to end the week for me is 360 Connect on Friday Night. I enjoy the games that we play like Table Tennis and Table Football. I also enjoy the snacks and drinks that are there. The devotions are also great and always relate to me and are practical in my life. It’s also cool how everyone is friendly and we are all friends with one another.

BY NATHAN KULAKOV



What I enjoy about being in the 360 worship team is the overall feeling of making the group whole. Each person on the team has a special roll that helps complete a full performance and being included in the band is a whole vibe itself. This year I started to learn the drums and it’s been so fun! I greatly appreciate everyone learning in the band with me and the leaders encouragement.

BY GRACE TEAO



I like going to 360 connect because I find it enjoyable to hang out with other people, play games, talking about God and how it can relate to us as teenagers. I also like talking about life in our life groups because we all are boyz and we can understand some things we are going through. I also like it because we socialise, which I never used to do until after I went to 360 connect. I have made new friends and connected with people, and that’s what I like about 360 connect.

BY BROOKE HOEFELICH



Friday nights at 360 are the highlight of the week for most of the youth who attend. The night starts off by having some fierce competition on the ping-pong table, then all coming together for an ice-breaker by Maz, followed by a discussion about stories from the Bible led by Will. A favourite part for me is when everyone huddles together and prays for the group’s challenges and any upcoming events before everyone heads home.

BY JAMES LIGGETT



It wouldn't be **CHRISTMAS** without...



KARYN NEWSON

It wouldn't be Christmas without... Family, food and fun!



WILLIAM IERERUA

It wouldn't be Christmas without... Pancakes!



SARAH-JANE RILEY

Hangi. Honestly kai is what brings people together.



VICTOR KULAKOV

Family and friends hanging out, a sunny beach and enjoying heaps of bbq.



KERYN MCCUTCHEON

It wouldn't be Christmas without... Christmas Baking.



GLORIA TEULILO

It wouldn't be Christmas without... Family, and friends.



LES WHITE

Fine festive food, fun, family, friends and remembering the reason for the season.



KEELY LIGGETT

It wouldn't be Christmas without... Elf hats, tutus and whanau.