

The Rona

.... your Bowral Church news

9 July 2020

Sabbath Services Last Sabbath was our first time to worship together in our church building. Enthusiasm for being able to do that was very evident among those who were able to attend. This Sabbath there will be the 9:30 am Sabbath School and the 11:00 am service. If you will not be able to attend, check tomorrow for an email from Pastor Owen which will have a Zoom link to join us for Sabbath School and the church service. If you have comments or suggestions regarding how things are being done, please talk to one of the elders.

Speakers This Sabbath 11 July Pr Owen Ellis
Next Sabbath 18 July Roger Kerr

Way Ahead Zoom Anxiety Support Group

Please note we have scheduled our Zoom Way Ahead Anxiety Support Group meetings for the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6-8pm. Please mark July 15, and August 5 & 19 in your diary. Please send an email to mittagonggroup@gmail.com if you would like to participate and we will send you an invitation before each meeting.

Thank you for your faithfulness

SNSW offering figures indicate continued faithfulness in tithe returned by our members. In the face of uncertainty we serve a faithful God. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving. Please remember that our other offerings including Sabbath School, Church budget and Offering of the Week continue to need our support according to our ability to give.

Alternative to eGiving If you would prefer to give your tithe and offerings by making a bank deposit, use the following: BSB 032716 and account number 164883. Please contact Garry when making a deposit to advise him as to where the amount is to be credited. Thank you for your financial support of our church

Sunset Times

Friday 10 July 5:03 pm
Sabbath 11 July 5:04 pm
Friday: 17 July 5:08 pm

Offerings

Last Sabbath
Local \$1275.00
Sabbath School 13 Sabbath \$ 601.40
Faith FM \$ 120.00
This week: World Mission
Next week: Local

Eight Guests

On Saturday night, 4 January this year, Andrew and those in the know, petitioned the Lord for the safety of Cedarvale. Andrew could see on his phone that the fire to the south was headed straight for Cedarvale. At the last minute it veered off that course and finally petered out. Andrew believed God had His protective hand over Cedarvale and its families.

Not many weeks later another challenge threatened the health retreat. COVID-19 closed businesses across the country, including Cedarvale. Andrew and his team wondered how they would survive. Now they believe that God's timing of events was well in hand—His hands.

As you read this, there are eight guests enjoying Cedarvale's program. They are the first group to return to Cedarvale. During the previous 15 weeks there have been miracles at Cedarvale.

In faith, the dedicated team decided that the forced closure would be an ideal time to carry out some much-needed refurbishment of the guest lodge, something that normally could not be fitted into the annual program. But you need people and money to do the work. God had the answers.

Challenge number one: people. Without fuss the Cedarvale team took to the task of refurbishment. They were joined by Ryan, one of Andrew and Jenny's sons (who was Cedarvale-bound by COVID-19), as well as Marlene and Frank. Ask any of the refurbishers to tell you the story of how they were given new skills. Bezalel was also given skills during the building of the wilderness sanctuary (see Exodus 31:1-11).

Challenge number two: money. With no guests, the income source dried up apart from a small amount from Charcoal sales. Yet there were still ongoing expenses. Federal and State government funding was available to businesses to enable them to pay staff, cover certain expenses and then to market their business for re-opening. Also, generous donors, mindful of Cedarvale's situation, gave what they could to support the ministry. God stretched what was given to cover more than expected with discounts and sales on purchases needed for the refurbishment.

The outcome? Cedarvale staff have a heightened trust in God's leading. As well, the month of July has no spaces for more guests to book a place in Cedarvale's program. And the following months are quickly filling up.

Would you like to join in the enthusiasm for what is happening over the edge of the escarpment? Ask one of the team to tell you their story. Pray for God to once again meet Cedarvale's need for additional power supply (big expense). Very importantly, pray for God's hand of protection to be over Cedarvale as one case of COVID-19 among the staff or guests would close the facility.

But, given what God has already done for Cedarvale, why worry? Trust Him and pray for His continued blessing on its ministry to others.



Part of The Lodge at Cedarvale