

23RD JAN 2022
JOHN 9:1-41
COURTNEY PATTEN

Welcome

Ministry team

Senior Pastor-Interim:

Sid Grindley

Korean Pastor:

David Choi

Mandarin Pastor—Interim:

Arthur Chan

Children's Ministry Worker:

Emma Ridley

Youth & Young Adult Worker—Interim:

David Chang

Business Manager:

Kim Poon 9872 3022
businessmanager@carlingford-baptist.org

Compliance/Church Secretary:

Ian Read

Office Administrator:

Karon Linder 9872 3022
office@carlingford-baptist.org

[English Service Livestreamed at 10am:](http://www.carlingford-baptist.org)

Access via our website
www.carlingford-baptist.org

Dates for your Diary:	
Church Health Check Forums—10am & 2pm	5/2
Celebration Service and in-person services return	6/2
/Church Health Check Forums—10am & 2pm	12/2

Have you ever been in a situation where you were so fixated on some small thing that you've missed the bigger picture entirely? Our story today in John 9 begins with the disciples asking a question – one which quickly reveals that they had worldly sight but were spiritually blind. This can easily happen for us as Christians when we focus so intently on God's good law – just as the Pharisees in our story did – that we miss whom that law is pointing too. We can also start to cherish the rules, laws, and commandments in themselves to such an extent that we begin to despise others who don't follow them exactly like we do, forgetting that the law was intended to help us love these people and to help them flourish. If this is the case, we find ourselves to be spiritually blinded by legalism – for which the only cure "is a rediscovery of grace". In this story, Christ takes the hand of a man who is both physically and spiritually blind and guides him along a journey to physical and spiritual sight. May we be blessed as we encounter the grace of God today through his beautiful Word.

Blessings,
Courtney

Mission Spot -

Sydney Refugee Team

After a 1 year break it was good to be able to run the Annual Christmas Party. Numbers were down on previous years but still many enjoyed the games with Juan for the kids and individually pre-packed lunches to make the event Covid-safe. The safety considerations also meant that there was mandatory check-in and vaccine checks.

Jim and Bec's church shared a Gospel message about God's gift of Jesus. This was translated into Farsi and Arabic. There was also a video, an excerpt from their church's "Carol Under the Star" event. Each family was given a QR code with a link to the event which was subtitled in Arabic and Farsi also. About 52 people logged into the Arabic version and 27 to the Farsi.

Jericho Road (Presbyterian Social Services) provided gifts for each child and a food hamper for each family.

With easing of restrictions Freedom to Flourish resumed some group activities in the Restoring Garden. Caroline has also been able to return to counselling in person instead of online. After a well earned break the activities in the Restoring Garden will resume in February.

Praise God for the partnership and support of many Churches, the Gospel message being heard and new members joining Sydney Refugee Team.



Church News

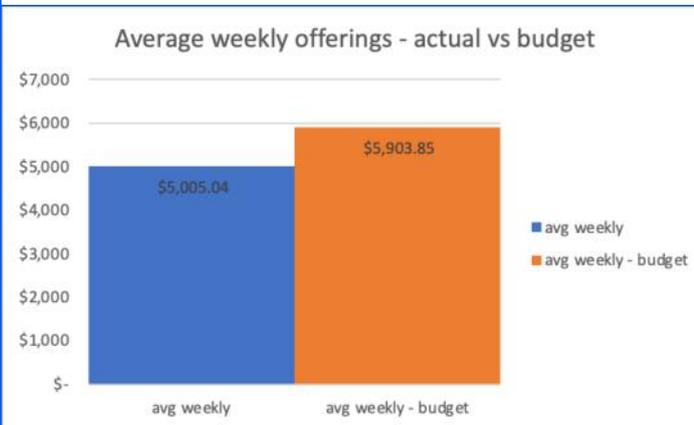
CBC Christmas Appeal BWA – Afghanistan Crisis

Decades of a refugee crisis have resulted in nearly six million Afghans forcibly displaced from their homes. The Taliban's recent takeover of the government has severely compounded the crisis., forcing hundreds of thousands to flee from their homes and tens of thousands in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. Please prayerfully consider what you might be able to give to help this crucial work. To give please Scan this QR code for our Giveaway account or go to: <https://carlingford-baptist-church.giveway.org.au/baptist-world-aid-christmas-appeal-hope-for-afghanistan> **2 more weeks to give!**



Average Weekly Offerings

Dear Fellow CBC members/believers,
We are thankful that Our Heavenly Father has carried CBC through the last 2 years, sustaining all our financial needs but since the end of 2021 all the government subsidies have been withdrawn. **Here is an update on average weekly offerings:**



Weekly offerings 9-Jan-22 \$4,436.50

Despite the easing of restrictions, we understand that many families in our communities are still experiencing some hardship. If you are not able to tithe due to current circumstances, please do not feel obliged.

We encourage all church members/fellow believers to give according to their ability and not beyond their means. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your help and support. Blessings, Kim

January Prayer Theme - Drawing closer to God.



The start of a new year can be a time to spend time with God with the freedom of some routines. An ideal time to take some time to reflect on your relationship with God.

Psalm 46:1-3, "Lord Jesus, thank You for being my refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble. Because of Your presence I will not fear...even if the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea... though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

In taking the time to reflect on your relationship with God pray about the things that has swirled around you in 2021. Give God thanks for everything He has walked you through.

Thank Him for the blessings, expected and unexpected, that have come your way. Thank Him for the way He has shown up in your life this past year. Ask God to give you the grace gift of forgiveness to extend to people that have hurt you during the year. Pray that God will also show areas where He would each of us grow as a Christian in 2022.

CHURCH HEALTH CHECK -



Friends, as we move forward with the Health Check we will be holding a total of 4 forum sessions for Church Members and friends. (Please note change of Date.)

5 February:

Session 1 - 10am-12pm-Reflections on the constitution, the governance of the Church, & the decision making process
Session 2 - 2-4pm-Reflections on the relationships between the various communities

12th February

Session 3 - 10am-12pm-Reflections on the Church's Vision
Session 4 - 2-4pm-Reflections on the Church's Ministry Life
Each will be facilitated by Tim Burns who is leading the Church Health Check team.

You can attend as many sessions as you like!

Please register online at this link -

<https://rsvp.church/r/TYBH9oOp> for each forum of choice. If you are unable to register please contact the office and Karon will record your registration details.

CBC Offerings:

Direct Deposit: Account held with Baptist Financial Services

Account Name: Carlingford Baptist Church
BSB No: 704-922, No: 100016526 or
Giveaway Link: Go to bit.ly/CBCgiveway



CBC Roster

	23rd January 2022 Livestream Only	31st January 2022 Livestream Only
Welcomers	N/A	N/A
COVID Warden	N/A	N/A
Prayer	Alan Worsley	Patsy Lees
Bible Reading	Jan Pittendrigh	Di Daniel
Offering Count	N/A	N/A
Livestream	Tim Ridley	Mark Chan
Sound	Jerry Hodgson	Kim Poon
AV	Betty Moore	Milton Purkiss
Other		

Church Family Prayer

Brenda Robilliard,
David & Rachael Tan,
Edgar & Jenny Voigts.

**Website Admin
Password:
admin4Carlo!**

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