

**18TH DECEMBER 22  
CAROLS & NATIVITY  
SERVICE**

## Welcome

### Dates for your Diary:

40 Days of Prayer 1/12/22-9/1/23	1/12/22- 9/1/23
Common Prayer time - 40 Days of Prayer	13/12/22 8PM
Christmas Day Service	25/12
Prayer Vigil for an hour	31/12 11:30PM
Pastor Howard Bennett commences	9/1
Welcome Dinner for Howard Details to come	28/1 6PM
Pastor Howard Bennett's Induction Service	29/1 10AM

### Carols & Nativity 2022—Christmas Welcome

It's a famous scene in Christmas books and nativity plays. No room in the inn. As we welcome Christmas into our homes, schools and shops we send cards with pictures of Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus huddled in a cute little stable. We sing songs of silent night and wonder how the world slept on as it's saviour stepped in. Ah! What irony for the song-writers to sing! What a paradox for the preachers to teach! But what if there's more to the story? What if we peel back the layers of the much-loved story? What if we look beyond tradition and clip art and see what else might be there. What if we lend an ear to what history and culture has to teach? What else might we discover?

We might find a story that lends a richness to our Christmas traditions. Traditions of gathering, of eating, of welcoming one and all. As we met together, languages, cultures, ages, community and strangers, online and in person let us. Let us notice with fresh eyes the people of Bethlehem. Let us join them in welcoming the Christ Child as he comes to welcome us into his kingdom.

Merry Christmas,  
Emma

**English Service in-person &  
livestreamed at 10am:**  
Access via our website  
[www.carlingford-baptist.org](http://www.carlingford-baptist.org)

Big congratulations to Honggang  
(Gary) Ren on his baptism today.

### Mission Spot— Bible Society Ukraine



The Bible Society is running a project helping Ukrainians cope with the full-scale and brutal war affecting the whole country and millions of people. Bible Society teams are carrying out field trips in different parts of the country and supplying scriptures to various partners (churches, volunteer organisations, international missions) In most cases, this is combined with partner's efforts to provide food, humanitarian aid as well as shelter for displaced people. From the end of February, Bible Society started giving away all the scripture they had available immediately-both Scriptures provided for this project and those intended for sale. Up to the end of March, 10,647 Scriptures were distributed: 2,301 Bibles, 205 Youth Bibles, 2,088 New Testaments and 6,053 Children's Bibles in both Ukrainian and Russian. The Bible, containing words of encouragement and hope, has become a crucial part of wider efforts of all Christian churches and organisations to support the Ukraine nation at the time of war. "Many times, we've heard people sharing that they survived only because of God's protection, of them praying all the time. Most of these people weren't active Christians but all say it was God who spared them, and they are willing to get to know him better. Everyone accepts the Bible with gratitude." Rostyslav, (Ukrainian Bible Society)



*Karen Read— Mission's Team Leader*

### Ministry team

Senior Pastor-Interim: Sid Grindley  
Korean Pastor: David Choi  
Mandarin Pastor—Interim: Arthur Chan  
Children's Ministry Worker: Emma Ridley  
Youth & Young Adults Worker-Interim: David Chang

Business Manager: Kim Poon 9872 3022  
[businessmanager@carlingford-baptist.org](mailto:businessmanager@carlingford-baptist.org)  
Compliance/Church Secretary: Ian Read  
Office Administrator: Karon Linder 9872 3022  
[office@carlingford-baptist.org](mailto:office@carlingford-baptist.org)

# Church News



## United Youth Camp

21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> of December @ Katoomba

Christian Convention- Transport needed to

take kids from the church to the camp site. Please contact David Chang for more information

### A Big Thank You from Sid

I want to express how much I have valued my time here at CBC – the warm welcome I [we] received, people's patience and encouragement as I settled into the flow of life at CBC, the many conversations I had as people were willing to share their journey in life - all helped me be affirmed in my call to serve as Interim Senior Pastor at CBC. It was a privilege to serve with the staff team, the Elders, the Church Council, Pastoral Care Team, Worship team and others, over that time, as we sought to discern what direction to take as the church opened itself up to a Church Health Review, conducted by Tim & Kevin. I'm not sure that many, if any, thought it possible that a new Senior Pastor would be affirmed within a couple of months of first placing an advertisement – but we did. Good job Pastoral Search Team, and thanks be to God. May God richly bless Howard's ministry. Jen & I thoroughly enjoyed the farewell last week – thank you also for your extremely generous gift. "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:20

### Nominations are being called for the positions of Church Delegate...

to attend The Assembly and The Gathering and will have voting rights, thus be our Church Representatives. It is essential for these people to be members of our Church at CBC. Please email names to the Office. Nominations close 31/12. If you have any questions please contact Ian Read or Sylvia Collinson.

### Average Weekly Offerings-

Just a quick update on our weekly offerings up to week 23 2022/23 (or 14 Nov 2022)  
Average weekly - Actual = \$5,419  
Average Weekly - Budget/Forecasted = \$6,000

### CBC Offerings: Direct Deposit: Account held with Baptist Financial Services

Account Name: Carlingford Baptist Church  
BSB : 704-922,A/C No: 100016526 or  
Giveaway Link: Go to <https://carlingford-baptist-church.giveway.org.au/> [general-offerings](#)



## CBC Roster

	18th December 2022	25th December 2022
Welcomers	<b>Patsy Lees &amp; Julia Liu</b>	<b>TBC</b>
Prayer	Joy Arnold	TBC
Bible Reading	Edgar Voigts	TBC
Offering Count	Lindsay Casey/Ken McGill	TBC
Livestream	Milton Purkiss	Mark Chan
Sound	Brendan Ridley	Tim Ridley
AV	Betty Moore	Melody Wong
Morning tea	Footprint Bible Study	TBC
Grounds	19/12 Clive Copelin/Colin Lees	

Contact Everest Consulting Pty Ltd Tel: 0403 272 866 for SAP support, sponsors of our weekly CBC News.

## PRAYER THEME FOR THIS MONTH 40 DAYS OF PRAYER

This week our prayers are focussed on Mandarin Community. (Please then include the material for this week). **Each Tuesday night at 8pm** you might pause and pray at the same time as others in CBC for the theme of the week in our 40 days of prayer. Another opportunity to pray in our 40 days of prayer will be to join with others at **Church at 11.30 pm on New Year's Eve** where we all can be praying together as we move into 2023.



### WEEK 3—17-24 December – Mandarin Community

-Thank God for Arthur Chan and his pastoral gifts.

-Uphold the Mandarin Working Committee which includes Rachael Tan, Sunny Xiaoying Wang, Haur Dat Gik, Connie Liu, Jane Peng and William Liangchao Lai and pray God directs them as they plan for 2023.

-Thank God will for using the small group programme in the Mandarin community to develop disciples for Christ and take that forward in 2023.

-Pray for opportunities in 2023 to enhance how all the communities work together to take Christ to the world.

### Some thanks from the Elders

As we sadly say goodbye to Sid today we want to again thank him for his service and express our thanks to God for Sid's gifts and His leading of Sid as our Pastor over the last 18 months. We have been greatly blessed by God through Sid's ministry.

Many of you joined with us to say farewell to Sid last week and thanks to all who made this such a wonderful time of fellowship and who contributed to the gift for Sid.

At the end of the year we also want to express our thanks to God for each one who is a part of our community. We also thank God for those who have assisted in ministries and service over the year in such wide and varied ways.

Thanks for your commitment and dedication and we pray that God will continue to use your service for Him to develop and grow His church.

Alan, Sylvia, Jason



### BIG CONGRATULATIONS to Cameron Mathewson who turned 50 this week!

**Josie Smith has passed away** only a short time after Stan. They were parents of Joanne (& Bruce) Grennard and attended Carlingford for many years.

**FREE CHRISTIAN BOOKS**...In the small hall there are some brand new Christian Books. Please feel free to take any you like.

### Church Family Prayer

Dianne & Ken McGill,  
Irene & Ranald McKilligan,  
Betty Moore

**Website Admin**  
**annPassword:**  
**admin4Carlo!**

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