

# SCAC Newsletter

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2017

## *A Word from our Director: Advancing God's Kingdom in the Coming Year*

**T**he past year has been a time of incredible growth in my life. As we come to the end of 2017,

I'd like to share two observations that I believe are timely and will assist us to be fruitful in the current season..

### *1. Remember our enemy is not people*

Our real enemy is not people, but Satan and his minions. The enemy hates a united church. He will send his legions to do everything possible to destroy unity. He knows that a united church, guided by the Word of God and loving one another, are the only force that can oppose him. Nothing can stop a united church, so that's where the enemy places his troops.

Ephesians 6:12 reminds us, *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the whole armour of God..."*

Recently, I attended the ICAL Congress in Dallas. One speaker, a Texan prophet named Barbara Wentroble, spoke of three demonic principalities that have been loosed on the Body of Christ to destroy unity. These demonic principalities are called Python, Jezebel and Leviathan...

- **Python spirit** – tries to crush the

life and vision out of believers and churches. Its main tactic is to discourage and get Christians to give up.

- **Jezebel spirit** – is a cunning and controlling spirit, operates out of insecurity and is highly manipulative, knows the scriptures, and wants to silence prophets.
- **Leviathan spirit** – named after a Biblical sea serpent, is a principality over regions. It twists communication, releases lies and false reports, slanders character and seeks to bring reproach on your name. Gossip is its main weapon.

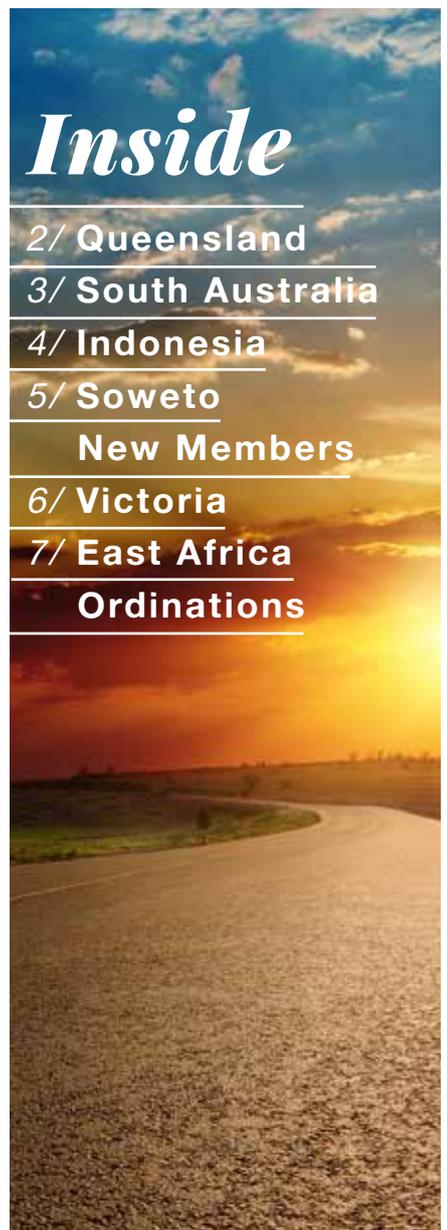
My point: be aware of the enemy's tactics to divide and conquer.

### *2. Build your team according to God's principles*

Jesus ministry was fruitful because He did only what He saw the Father doing (John 5:19). There are three general patterns we see in how God builds a team...

1) **He builds *Revelationally***. God will prophesy what He wants to birth. He shows a leader what He wants to build. Then God surrounds this leader with other leaders who share a common vision and embrace it as their dream as well.

2) **He builds *Relationally***. God gathers a team who want to be in



  
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relationship and believe in each other. This team are loyal and willing to sacrifice to see the vision come to pass. They are not 'hirelings' who simply do a job, or Korahs and Absaloms who try to lead people in a different direction. They are sons and daughters who serve the vision of the house, and make a decision to stay put.

3) **He builds *Generationally***. God raises leaders who want to reproduce themselves and pass on what they know to those younger than themselves. They reproduce what they have learned in others. They are committed to succession.

Adding to these patterns, we see three attitudes that are important

to maintain a strong and fruitful team...

1) **A Spirit of Loyalty** — knowing who are your pastors, whose vision God has called you to serve, and be a loyal part of a united team.

2) **A Spirit of Sacrifice** — to deny self and take up our cross daily for Christ.

3) **To be Committed in your heart with undivided focus** — it's not about doing our own thing, it's about joining forces and resources to build the house of God. This doesn't mean we have nothing to do with other churches. It's a matter of making sure your home church is strong and healthy. The same principle is true in marriage and family. If your home base is weak, you are vulnerable.

The Lord has been saying two things to Alaine and I as we approach the end of 2017: 1) It's time to go 'back to the basics'. 2) It's time to 'do less and do it better.' I hope you find these reflections helpful as you contemplate your focus for the coming year.

Dear Southern Cross brothers and sisters, we hope you can enjoy a time of rest and refocus during Christmas and New Year. Please pray about joining us in Victor Harbor from March 9-12 for our vibrant and exciting SCAC National Leaders' Advance. As always, know you are in our loving thoughts and prayers. May 2018 be the most fruitful year of your life!

*Dr John McElroy*  
SCAC Director

## SCAC Queensland

**T**he Queensland connection descended upon Kingdom Life Church, Tingalpa, in October for our recent get-together. It's always good to see the Queensland family and to catch up on how they are going. It's also nice to see new faces on most occasions, as some of the next generation are starting to join us for these events. Special guests for the day were a few ladies from ACAL who drove up from the Gold Coast to be part of the day. Thank you for leading us in worship. You always do a great job!

We were honoured to be joined by David Balestri who was our guest speaker and facilitator for the day. David gave us all plenty to chew on. He talked about "The need to restore apostolic culture in the church" where he highlighted key points such as Apostolic Refor-



mation and the activation of the saints as part of the church becoming "equipping centres" and how "the apostolic commission isn't just to build local churches, but rather disciple nations". He challenged us on looking beyond the next 12 months and having a 5 year plan, 10 year plan and a plan for the next 20 years plus, so we can launch the next generation. He highlighted key Scriptures on the need for the Church to have Christ as its Cornerstone and then build on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets. The need for Apostles and Prophets to come together, complement each other, communicate with each other and become unified. It was a good re-

minder of the different strengths and gifts that each apostle and prophet carry and how together in unison, make a very powerful team. Thank you David for coming up over the border and giving us some good downloads.

I want to thank and honour Len Rossow, for being Qld State Coordinator over the last few years. He has done a fantastic job in organising some key people to come and sow into us. Len is Prayer Coordinator for the upcoming Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast and that involves probably more than he realised! Thank you, Len, for your years of service. I'm glad you're still around to bounce ideas off!

Lastly, and this has to be said with a very humble heart, it is a great pleasure as a New South Welshman to be coordinating the Queensland contingent. Lol!

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Victor Harbour next March.

Blessings from up North,

*Gavin Irvine*

# SCAC South Australia

## Perseverance + Holy Spirit = Stamina at Encounter Christian Fellowship

**T**he Merriam-Webster Dictionary's definition of perseverance includes: 'the quality that allows someone to continue trying to do something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition.' A synonym would be steadfastness. I imagine a marathon runner, barely putting one foot in front of the other, exhausted, but moving forward. A bit like Moses and the Israelites – moving forward, but not quite getting to their destination – never truly engaging with the Promised Land, nor with the Promiser.

Perseverance is a Biblical quality – Galatians 6:9 tells us to 'not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.'

Is it just me, or does all of this sound a little negative? Sure, there are many lessons to learn from Exodus, and Encounter Christian Fellowship studied and learnt those lessons well earlier this quarter.

Now consider the Merriam-Webster definition of Stamina: 'great physical or mental strength that allows you to continue doing something for a long time.' Synonyms might be staying power, or endurance. That sounds like a long-distance runner who finishes strong or a well-trained,

well-equipped soldier standing firm in a battle, knowing he's on the winning side.

### Stamina is also a Biblical quality:

- Colossians 1:11 '... being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience...'
- Hebrews 6:11 'We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized.'
- 1 Corinthians 9:24 'Run in such a way as to get the prize.'
- Ephesians 6:11 'Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.'

ECF have been focusing on Spiritual Warfare recently – being soldiers with spiritual stamina, in prayer, in relationships, in reaching out to the community.

Two of our Bible study groups have been learning about the Holy Spirit, who is the key to turning perseverance into stamina. Our young adults group have enjoyed 'Remembering the Forgotten God,' by Francis Chan, and have learnt how to get God into their everyday lives and choices through a relationship with the Holy Spirit. Our women's group learned a lot from 'The Holy Spirit: an Introduction,' by John Bevere, particularly about

His empowerment to live victorious lives, and the gift of tongues.

Our faithful team of volunteers have shown perseverance through running our Pop-up Op Shop in a town half an hour away, adding an hour to each shift. Thanks to them, our Op Shop has been a great success, financially contributing to our building fund, blessing children in Tanzania through Believe, Educate and Empower (BEE), and providing a significant way to minister in the community.

God has recently turned a change in lease arrangements into a great blessing – the Op Shop is moving to Pt. Elliott, only ten minutes from Victor Harbor. We praise God for His provision. Through our recent teaching series, He prepared us to leave the old behind and embrace the Promised Land.

He has similarly prepared us to look ahead, empowered by His Holy Spirit, equipped to stand in 2018 as we host an inter-denominational prayer event as part of the National Day of Prayer on 10 Feb as well as the SCAC Advance coming up on 9-12 March 2018. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Robert Bailey*

ANNUAL SCAC

**LEADERS  
ADVANCE**

9-12 MARCH 2018

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# SCAC Indonesia

**I** never thought I'd be doing this: Southern Cross member teaches on land care at Kapet Kanaan, North Sulawesi.

'Can you help us make the land productive,' village head Apner Papuas said to me recently. Knowing that effective community transformation needs to come from the local community, I was waiting for this opportunity before starting to teach on land restoration.

Even though my background is preaching, teaching and writing (I have written five books for the Indonesian market), soon after arriving at Kapet Kanaan in February 2015 I realised they were in relatively good shape spiritually, but in poor shape physically.

The villagers at Kapet Kanaan are originally from the island of Lata-Lata in North Maluku where they fled from in 2001 after being held captive by Jihadists for 18 months. On their home island they produced an excess of fruit and vegetables, now they are dependent on trucks that pass by to obtain vegetables as the land they were given at Kapet Kanaan has poor fertility.

In desperation, after many failures at trying to have crops success, I stumbled across Permaculture (permanent agriculture), which has literally opened my eyes to a whole different way at looking at farming with concepts more in line with natural processes. Using techniques developed by a permaculture organisation in Bali, IDEP, I have started to have success on a small scale – and I am now teaching the villagers.

*Below: Kapet Kanaan villagers at land care seminar*



*Above: Warning of the dangers of burning organic matter*

As they are a devout Christian village that is smoke and alcohol free with active church and home-group meetings, I need a strong biblical foundation for my teaching. A scripture in Genesis provides clear direction for land care: 'use and care' (2:15). As a key to increasing health is improving the soil so they can plant a variety of vegetables I focus my teaching on soil improvement. Here are a summary of steps I've given them so far:

**1. Cover the soil with mulch – God's blanket**

*Below: Teaching on the importance of mulch: God's blanket*



**2. Stop burning the grass – it's need to become mulch and then minerals for the roots**



*Above: Mulching the soil*

**3. Stop cutting down the trees – they hold minerals in the soil**

**4. Make swales to maximise water use – use the water rather let it erode the soil**

*Below: Building swales in his trial gardens*



**5. Reduce soil tilling – less exposure to sun increases micro-organisms**

**6. Rotate crops – don't over-use nutrition**

**7. Control weeds – they take away fertility without results**

**8. Plant a variety of crops – learn from the forest**



cont. ▷

## 9. Give the land rest – like the Lord, land needs a break.

Along with land care related teaching and projects, I have developed several catfish ponds, a number of organic home gardens and a free range chicken yard. All this is to help increase the amount of vegetables and protein in the impoverished villagers' diet.



Above: Site for a future community forest.

I have a significant project planned for next year: developing a community forest with food for people and animals along with timber. Learning from the tropical jungle, I intend to plant over 50 varieties of trees and plants on ½ hectare of land that is currently covered with elephant grass. It's a big project but if it works it can be expanded to other areas of unused land in the village.

As I teach about land care the thought often comes to me that this could be the most important teaching I ever do; however, it's something I never expected to do and I'm unlikely ever to be recognised for. However, if we can succeed the future generations can experience what John prays: 'that you may be in good health' (3 John 2).

*When in Perth, Philip East attends Churchlands Christian Fellowship with his wife, Janice. They have three grown children all serving the Lord.*

*Phil East*

# SCAC Soweto

**T**he Apostolic Culture runs deep in our DNA, and is the foundation and the mantle of the church.

June 2017 marked a historic moment for the Church of Agape with its first Apostolic Seminar taking place at Nandi Primary School in Diepkloof Extension Phase 3, Soweto. Pastor Bertha Zwane placed a special emphasis on the book of Ruth, saying, "It's important for a relationship between the one who is honouring and the one honoured to exist." She went on to say this connection is key to one getting favour first with man, then with God.

This was also displayed out our 9th Apostolic Prophetic Leadership School (APLS) in October. We were blessed with a large contingent of guests from Ivory Coast, under the leadership of Pastor Koffi K. George. He has adapted to the Apostolic culture and as a result the school was also launched in Ivory Coast in 2016. The first school opened its doors in June 2017, and another will take place in 2018 to fulfil the mission that

the Lord has laid in the Apostle Busisiwe Thebehali's heart.

The year 2017 has been filled with so many blessings, opening of doors, and profound favour. Firstly, the church is busy breaking ground for the land that God has shown to them, on the premises of a primary school in Diepkloof, Soweto. The Bible college has also been running for a year and has just over 20 students enrolled. We are an Ephesians 2:42 church, ensuring that the Saints are equipped.

We continue to run a feeding scheme in the surrounding communities, every Tuesday. The Agape soup kitchen, attends to throngs of people on a weekly basis. This is also an opportunity to minister to those that are in need, to fully demonstrate Agape Love.

As the church grows and moves into new glory with Christ, we have been growing spiritually, and God has affirmed His vision to us, that He is with us, that he will make **HIS** Church a lighthouse.

*Busisiwe Thebehali  
Church of Agape, Soweto*

*New  
Members*

**Collier Marimba**

Sound City Church, Wellard, WA

**John & Dong-Soon Westmancott**

JDS International Ministry, WA

**Steve Cioccolanti,**

**Caren Chug & SerPin Sim**

Discovery Church Inc, VIC

**Anthony Amedokpo**

Highway of Hope Christian Church,  
GHANA

# SCAC Victoria

Once again another year is coming to an end, and what a wonderful milestone year it has been. We experienced the 500 year anniversary of the Reformation which took Christianity to a renewed level of revelation, understanding, personal growth and missional and evangelistic fervour. The 100 year anniversary of the charge of the Australian Light Horse Brigade, which liberated Israel from Ottoman domination, was also celebrated. The 100 year anniversary of the Balfour declaration, which opened the door for the establishment of Israel as a nation occurred as well, and finally the 50 year anniversary of that miraculous six day war where God intervened and together with the Israeli Defence Forces, successfully defended the newly born nation and gave them an amazing victory over their enemies, who had attacked them viciously from all sides. This strongly resurgent Israel, together with the globally pervasive presence of the companion Judeo Christian church in every nation, are powerful signs of the times in which we live and a bastion of hope for the success of His kingdom cause.

It's not all good news, however. The wheat and tares continue to grow together, and we are seeing a myriad of the most weird and grotesque events, happening here in our own country and in various places all over the world. Western nations are struggling with so many of the obscene Marxist socialist and occult ab-

errations that it sometimes feels like we are living in some type of crazy twisted horror movie.

Nevertheless even in the midst of some of the worst possible happenings, we are experiencing amazing miraculous divine interventions, which are changing lives and there is an undercurrent of what seems to be the beginnings of a major revival in the west. On the one hand we seem to be losing social, spiritual and political bat-

***There seems to be no end to Father God's innovation and creativity in advancing His Kingdom and ushering in the Great Awakening!***

tles en masse, yet something profoundly mysterious is happening. Christians are becoming more active and passionate, more unified and cohesive and there is an increasing willingness to get involved and make a difference.

At our recent Southern Cross gathering in Victoria, there were reports of ... the increasing urgency and intensity of the presence of God in public meetings and personal devotions; an escalating desire to repent, pray and engage with people in a more genuine fashion and to get involved for Jesus in our various spheres of influence. There were reports of people coming to Christ in increasing numbers and churches preaching the gospel and leading people to salvation, some of which have not been evangelising or seen converts for many years. Many of our friends who had been told years ago that they were terminally ill, continue to power on in varying degrees of good health, as they choose to dedicate whatever

years they may have left to the cause of King Jesus. Miracles signs and wonders are accelerating and becoming a new norm wherever they are encouraged in the Body of Christ. Mass deliverances and effective release from ancestral curses, false beliefs, inner hurts, trauma, abuse, and spiritual oppression are occurring as the Lord leads us to step out in faith and walk in the promises of Isaiah 60 and 61, Psalm 23 and Luke 4, etc. Individuals and churches are feeling called to embark upon grand campaigns, callings and projects, some of which baffle human logic and yet they are typically getting traction, starting to succeed and with many already bringing a har-

vest. There seems to be no end to Father God's innovation and creativity in advancing His Kingdom and ushering in

the Great Awakening! We rejoice with Him, and resolve to continue to go with His flow in and with the river of God!

As 'weeping saints' we both grieve, cry out, repent and intercede as the Lord leads... as well as move, pray and declare in His mighty power, a divine supernatural deliverance and release from besetting sin, and the effects thereof, wherever it is found; and whether it be personal, corporate or National... and our Lord Jesus, the all-conquering King, the Christ is bringing a great victory. Thank you, Lord!

Finally, we look forward to seeing many of you in Victor Harbor in March 2018, where we can share again in that beautiful gift of love, fellowship and refreshment with which He has blessed us in Southern Cross, ACAL and the Body of Christ generally.

Kindest regards and a blessed happy holy wonderful Christmas

***Dave and Kathy Apelt  
and the SCAC Vic Team***

# SCAC East Africa

**O**n 28 September we hosted our first Southern Cross East Africa leadership council meeting. We have invited a team of three couples who are members of Southern Cross to work with us in the oversight of Southern Cross for East Africa.



*The new leadership team consists of:*

**John & Janet Odaka**  
(Nairobi)

**James & Leonida Tembula**  
(Kisumu)

**Jeremiah & Irene Akhonya**  
(Kaimosi)

We met together as a team along with John McElroy and David

Apelt who were visiting Kenya to build into our team. It was a great time of encouragement, discussion and relationship building.

Also while David Apelt was with us we were able to host two Southern Cross regional gatherings. The first was in Nairobi where, we were also joined by Southern Cross member, Linda Sweetman. The second one was in the country area on Nakuru at the church of Wilfred Khamala. In Nakuru Linda and Southern Cross member Julie Shannon were also there. These events are a great time of encouragement to all who attend. We are grateful for the input of so many into our members.

Please also could you stand with us in upholding the nation of Kenya in your prayers? The political situation here is currently unstable. Please pray for peace to reign over the nation and wisdom for the country's leaders..

God bless

**Anthony and Fiona Schöpf**  
*SCAC East Africa Coordinators*

## Ordinations

**Collier Marimba**  
Sound City Church,  
Wellard, WA

**John & Dong-Soon Westmancott**  
JDS International  
Ministry, WA

**David Lovell**  
Christian Surfers  
Australia, NSW

*(David's ordination pictured below)*



## The Southern Cross Association of Churches

☎ {+61 8} 6241 2700

✉ enquiries@southerncrossnetwork.org.au

📍 PO Box 640 Balcatta WA 6941

🌐 southerncrossnetwork.org.au



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